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# A SHOCKING WASTE OF OUR MONEY

## £155k lost in homes contract overpayment blunder

A SENIOR councillor is facing calls for his resignation after a damning report found that Medway's housing service had overpaid contractors using £155,000 of taxpayers' money.

An investigation was carried out into the department's wayward payments after three whistleblowers brought the mismanagement of funds to the council's attention.

Monitoring officer Deborah Upton's 19-page report found "a lack of sufficient management controls" had led to

### EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

Erinaceous Property Management (EPM) being given an extra £120,000 for work carried out on boilers and more than £35,000 for roofing repairs.

A catalogue of council errors and failures to adhere to contracts had led to the council being unable to recover a single penny of the combined £155,007.56 overpayment.

In the aftermath of the scandal, the Liberal Democrats have called on Cllr Tom Mason – responsible for housing

at the time – to take responsibility for the blunders and offer his resignation.

Group leader Cllr Geoff Juby said: "There has been a woeful lack of political leadership on this issue."

"Cllr Mason should resign. How can the people of Medway trust the council on housing issues after this report showed how the basics were not done properly?"

The council entered into a contract with EPM, formerly Springrove Property Maintenance and now 3C Asset Management, on April 1, last year.

The firm was hired to carry out maintenance, repair and improvement

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



## NOW WE ARE ONE

This little bookworm relished helping Medway children's mobile library celebrate its first anniversary. Nine-year-old Janieve Capewell enjoyed browsing through the shelves for a new story to read. The Allhallows Primary School pupil was among a group of youngsters attending the popular service's anniversary celebrations.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 12

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**2** Motors editor Steve Loader casts his eye over the new Astra. See the motors channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk.



**3** Punk rock band One Day Elliott perform for us in The Ether. See the leisure channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk

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THE END: A decision was expected yesterday for the future of the Sir John Hawkins flyover

# Drivers: prepare yourselves for more disruption

■ BY JON COATES

THE second phase of work planned for Chatham town centre's road network was expected to be given the green light yesterday – signalling the start of two-and-a-half years of delays and disruption.

Medway council's cabinet were due to rubber-stamp extensive plans to further develop the struggling two-way system and start work on the new bus terminal, set to be built in Globe Lane.

This work would also see the demolition of the Sir John Hawkins Way flyover, The Brook being widened and improvements made to Manor Road, Union Street and Gibraltar Hill.

In a report to cabinet, Chatham project manager Sara Purvis warned: "The phase two road scheme and the construction of the new bus facility will be completed within the next two-and-a-half years based on the draft programme.

"It is inevitable that during this period there will be disruption and delays to traffic.

"However, once the works are complete, modelling shows the road network in Chatham will be capable of accommodating the additional traffic anticipated due to the regeneration proposals and traffic growth for a considerable period of time."

The work comes as part of the Chatham Centre and Waterfront

Framework, adopted by Medway council in July 2004.

Phase one saw the two-way system reintroduced in 2006 and the Sir John Hawkins Way flyover temporarily closed.

Once the road network is complete, attention will be turned towards developing the Chatham Waterfront site.

Land between Sun Pier and the Command House pub will house striking apartments, a waterfront park, cafes, restaurants and a major new arts and entertainment venue.

Medway council leader Rodney Chambers said: "With the flyover down and the new bus station operational, we can get on with the rest of the regeneration programme.

"In a few short years Medway as a whole – and Chatham in particular – will be a very different place."

### PHASE TWO DEVELOPMENTS

Closure and demolition of the Sir John Hawkins Way flyover

Medway Street closed to southbound traffic, with buses diverted along route

Minor improvement to Manor Road to accommodate two-way traffic

Junction improvements and realignment of Union Street

Construction of bus facility in Globe Lane

Widening of Gibraltar Hill

Three-stage widening of The Brook. The first between Slicketts Hill and Queen Street, the second between Queen Street and the magistrates court, and the third between King Street and Globe Lane.

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

### Police ask for help from teenagers

EAGER teenagers are being sought by trading standards bosses to carry out test purchases at businesses across Medway.

The regulations-checking firm is in urgent need of boys between 15 and 16 years old and of average height and appearance.

The under age teenagers would be asked to attempt to buy alcohol at off-licences across the towns.

Operations usually run from 4pm to 10pm on weekdays. For more information e-mail gurmito.sagoo@medway.gov.uk.

### Mobile unit brings safety to town

MEDWAY council's safer communities team is heading to Rainham tomorrow to highlight its work.

The team's mobile unit will set up their stall outside Stead and Simpson shoe shop in the shopping precinct from 1pm to 3pm, giving information on issues such as trading standards, safer shopping and environmental health.

Community safety chief Cllr Rehman Chishti said: "These roadshows give residents the chance to reach out to local consumers to hear their experiences of Medway's businesses."

### Sporty relocation good for shoppers

SPORTS giant JJB will move into the Pentagon Shopping Centre after signing a 15-year lease.

The leading retailer will move indoors from their Chatham High Street premises, taking a larger 15,000 sq ft space on the first floor.

JJB's property director Barry Dunn said: "We are delighted to be able to relocate and take larger space in Chatham town centre."

### Celebrate with scouts

GILLINGHAM Scouts are throwing a birthday party next month to mark the troop's centenary year.

The celebratory event will be held at the Howard School in Rainham on Sunday, July 20, from 2pm to 6pm.

For more information e-mail centenary@gillinghamscouts.org.uk or call 0845 094 6399.

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# Telly appeal to track down missing Iraqis

## Police turn to BBC in search for suspects

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

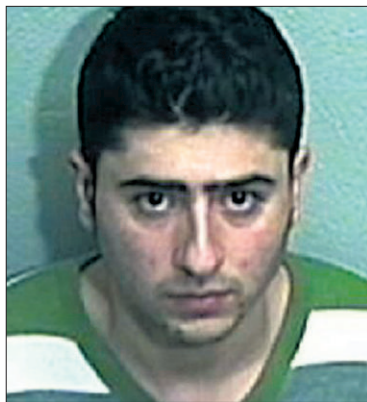
THE net is closing in on two men suspected of raping a teenage girl after a police appeal on last night's Crimewatch programme.

Medway police's Detective Sergeant Adam Marshall featured on the long-running BBC TV show to appeal for information on the whereabouts of Ali Khardo and Shamal Hussain.

The young Iraqis have been on the run since November, when they were arrested on suspicion of attacking a terrified 19-year-old girl in Rochester High Street.

DS Marshall said: "This was a serious offence and we are keen to locate these men. We have conducted numerous appeals locally and are now hoping that this high-profile national coverage will provide us with the information we need to allow us to progress our investigation."

Khardo, 22, and Hussain, 20, who gave police addresses in the Gravesend area, were arrested and questioned by police after being captured on CCTV cameras in the high street in the early hours of the morning on November



MISSING MEN: Ali Khardo (left) and Shamal Hussain have been on the run since the attack on the girl in November

### CRIMEWATCH FACTS

- First broadcast in June 1984, with presenters Nick Ross and Sue Cook.
- Also hosted by Jill Dando and Fiona Bruce, and current presenters Kirsty Young and Matthew Amroliwala.
- Successful appeals for information which have led to convictions include the M25 rapist Anthony Imiela, the road-rage killing by Kenneth Noye, and the capture of two boys for the abduction and murder of James Bulger.

4 – the night the teenager was attacked.

Both men were released on bail to allow for further investigation, but failed to report to

Medway police station as required.

Officers went to their homes in a bid to locate the pair, but found the properties abandoned.

A police spokesman said at the time of their disappearance: "We are not being complacent, but there is every possibility they have fled abroad. We are keen to locate these men and interview them further in connection with this serious offence. If you know where they are, please contact police and do not attempt to stop them yourself. We are hopeful that somebody will recognise these men and come forward with some useful information."

Khardo was described as 6ft tall and of average build, with Hussain 5ft 6ins tall and stocky.

Anyone with any information should call the police on 01634 891055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

## Crook preyed on the elderly

A THIEF who stole jewellery worth more than £35,000 from homes in Sittingbourne, Maidstone and Medway has been jailed for four years.

Christopher Swanson, 41, of Primrose Cottage in Borden, pleaded guilty to charges including burglary, handling stolen goods and fraud at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday last week.

He asked for 28 other offences to be taken into consideration in sentencing.

Police caught Swanson after he left his DNA at the scene of a burglary in Sittingbourne.

Following a search of his home, officers discovered receipts from pawnshops across the country. After a lengthy investigation, more than 100 items – including necklaces and rings from nine different pawnshops – were seized. Many have since been reunited with their owners.

Investigating officer DC Mark Whewell-Jones said: "Swanson was a career criminal who made his living out of other people's misery."

"Many of the items he stole held great sentimental value and were owned by elderly people."

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## Councillor at centre of row will not resign

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

works in houses across Medway.

While Miss Upton's report found no evidence of fraud or dishonesty on the part of the council or EPM, she discovered a series of embarrassing and costly mistakes had been made by council staff.

Employees had failed to use composite codes, a cheaper billing system which covers all the works' costs rather than receiving invoices for each individual area; had given the go-ahead to repairs without the necessary authority; and had applied an incorrect percentage uplift to bills.

Miss Upton has recommended the council's audit committee put 18 measures in place to ensure it does not waste another six-figure sum.

Despite the blunders, Cllr Mason, now in charge of adult services, has refused to resign.

He said: "Medway council has carried out an investigation into housing maintenance and found that there was no misappropriation of funds. Many tenants received high quality work and there was an 89 per cent customer satisfaction rate."

"Contract control and supervision needed to be tightened up and now has been."

## 'Dishonest' doctor joined husband in six-figure con trick

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A FORMER Gillingham doctor who helped con a psychiatrist out of £188,000 has had her registration suspended for a year after being found guilty of misconduct.

Dr Naveen Karwal, of Nelson Road in Gillingham, was handed the 12-month sentence by the General Medical Council on Thursday after a four-week fitness to practice hearing.

The GMC found Karwal's actions to be "dishonest, below the standard expected of a registered medical practitioner and likely to bring the profession into disrepute".

During the in-depth hearing the panel heard how Karwal and her husband Dr Nitai Addy had scammed a Harley Street psychiatrist out of £188,000 in 2001.

Karwal's role in the con was to reassure their target, Dr Ahmed, that once he handed over the cash he would be more than reimbursed, saying the six-figure sum would release £1,017,000 from an African bank account.

Dr Ahmed was so taken in by the scheming pair that he remortgaged his Wigmore house and used savings to come up with the funds.

In 2004, the High Court ordered Karwal and Addy to pay back the money plus interest and £650,000 costs.

While accepting that Addy was the "prime mover" in the scam, the GMC panel said Karwal's actions represented "a serious departure from the relevant professional standards".

Their report stated: "Despite the serious view the panel takes of dishonesty it has concluded that in this case a period of suspension would be sufficient to demonstrate its strong disapproval of Dr Karwal's conduct and behaviour and to protect the public interest."

"The panel has also concluded that it is necessary that her registration be suspended with immediate effect."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

## Cash grants offer to community groups

VOLUNTARY and community groups across Medway are being invited to apply for cash through a grants programme. The council-run scheme is open to all groups whose activities benefit residents. For an application form or more details, contact Kim Weobley on 01634 333185 or email kim.weobley@medway.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can write to Kim Weobley at: Social Care Commissioning and Welfare Benefits Team, Children and Adults Directorate, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Applications must be received by Friday, September 26.

## Keep an eye out for missing motorcycle

MEDWAY residents are being asked to keep a look out for a rare motorcycle stolen from a garden shed in Gillingham. The Shineray bike, valued at £600, was taken from a property in Lynsted Road last Tuesday, at about 2.20am. Anyone who may have seen the bike, or who has information about the theft, is asked to contact Medway police station on 01634 792521 or Kent CrimeStoppers on 0800 555111.

## Shopper pestered by aggressive beggar

POLICE are looking for an aggressive beggar who pestered a shopper for cash.

The suspect approached a 46-year-old man in Chatham High Street at about 6.45pm on Tuesday, June 3, and demanded £1.

When this was declined the young man became aggressive and only gave up when the victim said he was calling the police.

He is thought to be Eastern European, aged between 20 and 25 years, 5ft 6ins tall, with short dark-brown hair and a moustache.

## Bollywood invitation

A BOLLYWOOD dinner and dance will be held next month to raise money for the new Macmillan Cancer Care unit at Medway Hospital.

The Indian-themed night to be held at the Corn Exchange in Rochester on Friday, July 4, will feature a host of entertainment.

The event is being organised by Mid-Kent College and is open to all college staff, family and friends. Tickets cost £25 per person. For more information e-mail renu.sharma@midkent.ac.uk.

# Public to have say on schools merger

BY SIMON ROBINSON

CONTROVERSIAL plans to merge two Chatham schools into a corporate-funded academy are expected to be put to the public next month.

Council bosses were due to discuss the future of Chatham South School and Medway Community College at a cabinet meeting yesterday.

They were expected to set out a timetable for consultation, beginning with a session with pupils, staff and governors of both secondary schools in July.

The proposal was announced last month, with children's services boss Les Wicks describing the merger as a "win-win situation for pupils and the community". A report seen by cabinet yesterday gave falling rolls, viability and a lack of scope for expansion as reasons why the



**A NEW HOPE:** Medway Community College could be merged with Chatham South School to form an academy. The proposal is being backed by both headteachers

academy system should be introduced in Chatham.

It states: "The numbers of children of secondary school age have been falling locally and nationally. This impacts differentially on secondary schools' viability, so those which are seen as unpopular decline in numbers and their budgets reduce accordingly."

"This in turn reduces their ability to raise standards and maintain a broad curriculum."

"This cycle is affecting the community college, which has significantly fewer pupils in key stage three than four."

"Chatham South is popular, with the number of pupils increasing each year. However, the school is on a restricted site

and unable to admit all the pupils whose parents would like them to go there."

Despite their differing fortunes, both schools' headteachers have welcomed the proposal.

Chatham South's Vincent O'Mara said: "We are excited about being able to offer our successful brand of education in a newly built academy."

"Our values of equal opportunities, inclusion and care for the individual, as well as high academic achievement, will be crucial to the success of the new school."

"Pupils and their families should not be afraid of the changes proposed because we will remain focused on their progress and welfare, as well as planning for the new academy."

College head Andrea Ferris said: "I offer my full support and belief in the academy as a wonderful opportunity."

"The academy will have state of the art facilities for pupils and the community and will foster a new feeling of hope as well as creating a real feel-good factor locally."

## STILL NO END TO FAMILY'S AGONY



Police are continuing to appeal for information about an Alzheimer's sufferer who disappeared a month ago.

Amarjit Lehal, 69, failed to return to his Chatham home on Tuesday, May 27.

A family friend saw him in Bluebell Hill later that day, leading to a search, but police were unable to find Mr Lehal. His wife Ravinder and son Harjit, pictured, made an emotional plea for information during a press conference at Medway police station two weeks ago.

Harjit said: "We're getting increasingly concerned for my father's safety."

Mr Lehal is 5ft 10in tall, slim, with short, black/greying hair and a full beard. He was wearing a long-sleeved blue checked shirt, blue trousers, a navy jacket and grey trainers. He has gone missing before and has previously been spotted in Strood, Rochester and Sittingbourne.

Anyone with information is asked to call the police on 01634 792288.

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**DARK CLOUDS:** Kingsnorth will be targeted by thousands of eco-campaigners during a week-long demonstration

# 'Green' flotilla aiming to shut down station

ECO-campaigners have announced plans to take their anti-power station protest to the waves during a week-long demonstration.

The Camp for Climate Action said a flotilla of rafts would be launched onto the River Medway in August to help in their efforts to "shut down" the Kingsnorth plant on the Hoo peninsula.

The green armada will set sail between August 3-12, coinciding with the protest camp, expected to be attended by more than 2,000 eco-activists.

Protestor Sarah Jenkins, one of those coordinating the sea-born strike, said: "Once on the river we will swim towards Kingsnorth like a giant shoal of disobedient fish, all with one simple and achievable aim in mind: shutting down the climate criminal."

The announcement comes just a week after Camp spokesman Mel Jones told Grain villagers and police of their plans to shut down the power plant during the protest, as exclusively revealed by Yourmedway.

Despite police warning action would be taken against any law breakers, the group stood by their plans.

Spokesman Isabelle Michel said: "The Camp for Climate Action has collectively decided that we will aim to shut down Kingsnorth power station."

"Coal is the dirtiest of fossil fuels and has

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

no place in a sensible strategy to deal with climate chaos. There is only one thing to do with fossil fuels: leaving them in the ground. "Some participants in the camp will be prepared to break the law as sometimes it is the only way to induce the changes that are necessary."

The Camp for Climate Action and fellow eco-activists Greenpeace have hit out at E.ON's plans to build new coal-fired units at Kingsnorth, saying the plant would emit more than eight million tonnes of CO2 each year - making it "one of the most climate-wrecking plants in Europe".

- A mobile police station has this week been set up near the site of the planned protest to keep residents updated about the policing arrangements for the camp.

The station will stop at Stoke Community School in Allhallows Road in Lower Stoke from 12.30pm to 7.30pm today, moving to the fire station in Chapel Road in Grain during the same hours tomorrow.

On Friday, officers will be on hand to talk to residents in Church Lane car park in Hoo from 12.30pm to 3.45pm and High Halstow recreation hall car park in The Street from 4.15pm to 7.30pm. Anyone with concerns about the camp can contact Medway police on 01634 792660 or by emailing kingsnorth.enquiries@kent.pnn.police.uk.

## Officers praised for making streets safer

TWO police officers who helped bring a paedophile to justice were honoured for their dedication at an awards ceremony last night.

DC Ally Smith and PC Alison Sayers both played instrumental roles in capturing and convicting Noel Kelly, who subsequently pleaded guilty to a string of offences and was jailed for nine years.

PC Sayers took the lead in collecting evidence from Kelly's victims and other witnesses, resulting in the paedophile's arrest in August 2006.

DC Smith became involved in the case in March 2007, after Kelly went on the run.

She appealed for information regarding Kelly's whereabouts on the BBC Crimewatch

programme. As a result Kelly gave himself up within four days of the broadcast.

He was charged with 17 counts of sexual abuse on two young girls, seven indecent assaults, seven counts of gross indecency with children and one count of rape.

DC Smith and PC Sayers were honoured alongside 26 other Medway officers.

Chief Superintendent Jan Stephens, Medway's area commander, said: "My officers and staff genuinely care about the community and often put other people's safety before their own."

"These people are an asset to Medway and the force as a whole and they are committed to making the area a safer place."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

## Proposed scheme to end fans' parking nightmare

GILLS chiefs have announced plans to introduce a free park-and-ride scheme to all home games ahead of the new season.

The club has held talks with bus operators with a view to establishing a number of pick-up points in Medway and across Kent.

Gillingham FC media manager Martin Weller said discussions with all interested parties were at an early stage, but that he hoped the scheme would be up-and-running before the Gills entertain Luton Town at Priestfield on Saturday, August 16.

He said: "Recent research published by the Football League show that Gillingham supporters' biggest concern surrounds transport to and from games and the difficulty of parking in the area surrounding the stadium."

"The club is committed to offering a major park-and-ride scheme and we're trying to look as wide as possible, offering pick-up points across Kent. Ideally, this would be a free service, but at this stage we don't know exactly how it will work."

## Hospital working hard to reduce its carbon footprint

HEALTH chiefs at Medway Maritime Hospital organised a string of green events last week as part of a nationwide carbon reduction drive.

Medway Foundation Trust staff took part in a kids versus adults bike race and Gillingham and Rainham MP Paul Clark was given a behind-the-scenes tour on how the hospital is trying to reduce its carbon footprint.

He said: "Hospitals are big consumers of energy so it's great that everyone working, visiting or being treated at the hospital can get ideas to help the environment."

## Woman spotted pervert looking at her in toilet

A PEEPING Tom is being hunted by police after walking into a woman's toilet in a Rochester wine bar.

The man is alleged to have peered over a cubicle in Enigma on Thursday June 12 at 10.15pm. A 33-year-old woman saw the pervert and called the police.

After being spotted the suspect fled the High Street bar and walked towards the train station.

He was between 25-27 years old, of slight build, with a bald or shaved head and wore white and black trainers, a white hooded top and a dark coloured jacket.



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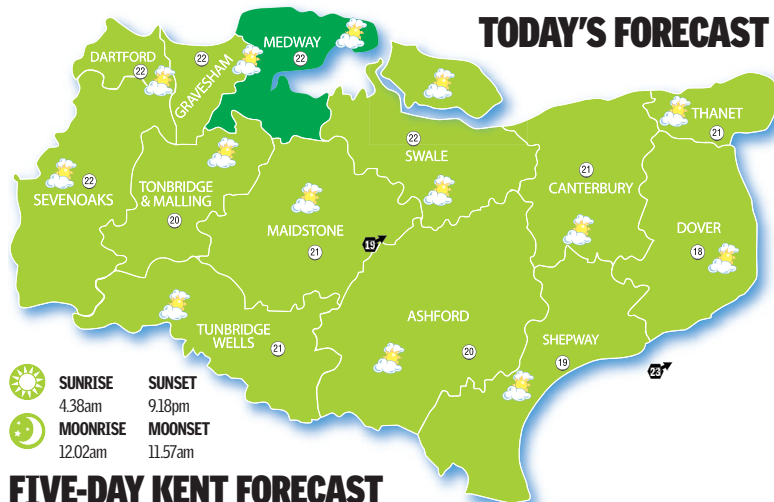


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Ashford	20°C	22°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	Gravesend	21°C	22°C	22°C	22°C	22°C
Canterbury	19°C	21°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	Maidstone	21°C	23°C	21°C	22°C	22°C
Chatham	17°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	20°C	Ramsgate	19°C	21°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Dartford	21°C	22°C	22°C	22°C	22°C	Rochester	17°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	20°C
Dover	18°C	19°C	18°C	17°C	18°C	Sevenoaks	20°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Faversham	17°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	20°C	Sittingbourne	17°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	20°C
Folkestone	18°C	19°C	18°C	17°C	18°C	Tonbridge	21°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C
Gillingham	17°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	20°C	Tun Wells	21°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C



## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	6:29am	5.3m
	Sunday	7:23am	5.2m
Dover	Saturday	5:06pm	6.0m
	Sunday	6:05pm	6.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	4:56pm	6.9m
	Sunday	6:00pm	6.7m
Ramsgate	Saturday	5:36pm	4.5m
	Sunday	6:09am	4.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	6:18am	5.2m
	Sunday	7:11am	5.1m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:23am	4.7m
	Sunday	7:19am	4.7m



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	16°C	Madrid	32°C
Athens	33°C	New York	26°C
Barcelona	25°C	Paris	22°C
Beijing	27°C	Rome	30°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	15°C
Cape Town	16°C	Tenerife	26°C
Cardiff	16°C	Tokyo	24°C
Gibraltar	26°C	Vancouver	18°C
Hong Kong	33°C	Warsaw	26°C
Las Palmas	25°C	Wellington	10°C

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF



**GOLDEN GLOW:** Su Button receives her Solal Award in Prague

## Fashion campaign is right on the Button

HEMPSTEAD Valley's marketing team has scooped an international award in recognition of an innovative fashion campaign.

The Gillingham shopping centre's Su Button took gold at the European Solal Marketing Awards.

After the ceremony in Prague, capital of the Czech Republic, marketing manager Ms Button said: "I feel very proud that my campaign was awarded a prestigious gold Solal. It is fantastic that Hempstead Valley has gained international recognition."

Last year, Hempstead Valley won the British Council of Shopping Centres Purple Apple Award – given for creativity, cost-effectiveness and results – for the same campaign.

The judges said the entry had demonstrated "clear objectives, a rational approach and well-researched results". They also cited Ms Button for her dedication and enthusiasm in single-handedly managing the project.

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### IAN COOLING



**Q** How long have you been involved with Kent Crimestoppers?

**A** I joined Kent Crimestoppers in the summer of 2004, became vice-chairman in the autumn of 2005 and was elected chairman in the summer of 2006.

**Q** What are the main aims and objectives of Kent Crimestoppers?

**A** Kent Crimestoppers' vision is 'The Crimestoppers number in every house in Kent'.

The wider national objectives of Crimestoppers are: "Through the provision of a freephone number, 0800 555 111, to help identify, prevent, solve and reduce crime by enabling anyone with details of criminal activity to pass them on anonymously, without fear of exposure or retribution."

Or, in the words of our slogan, "Tell us what you know, not who you are."

**Q** Calls to Kent Crimestoppers are anonymous which must result in a lot more people calling you, than say, the police. How does this work?

**A** At two levels, firstly, the technical, all caller identification equipment is disabled at our 24/7 call centre in Godstone, Surrey.

Secondly, our operators are trained to exclude all identification details from all reports passed to the police.

From those reports, it is even not possible to identify whether the caller was male or female.

**Q** Keeping calls anonymous must encourage more people to ring. Do you receive a lot of calls from members of the public?

**A** Because Crimestoppers doesn't want your name and address, no-one will ever know you made the call and you will never have to give a statement or go to court.

Crimestoppers is an independent charity that has been successfully helping to make communities safer since 1988. It's promise of anonymity has never been broken.

The number of calls received is huge. Nationally, in the year April 2006 to March 2007, we received 80,660 actionable calls.

These are defined as calls that lead to such police action as arrest, caution, court appearance and sentencing. The all calls/actionable calls ratio is greater than six to one.

**Q** Do you get positive feedback from the communities that you work with?

**A** Yes indeed. We regularly man a stall at community safety events across the county and regularly receive praise for the Crimestoppers service.

People feel it gives them a channel to pass the information they have, without putting themselves in harms way. Parents are also very positive about the 'SNAP' Dances (Say No And Phone) we organise for youngsters across Kent.

They like the idea of putting the Crimestoppers message over to youngsters in a safe environment that is popular with

the youngsters themselves. Events attract up to 400 dance-goers.

**Q** How many people work for Kent Crimestoppers and as a charity, are a lot of these people volunteers?

**A** We have one full-time member of staff in Kent and a total of 11 active volunteers. However, we are able to call on a large number of helpers for one-off activities such as delivering leaflets and posters.

Nationally, we are a lean organisation with only 30 full-time staff at our headquarters in London managing a network of 32 Regions across the United Kingdom.

**Q** What is your favourite thing about being chairman of Kent Crimestoppers?

**A** Being a member of a busy and successful team in Kent Crimestoppers and Crimestoppers nationally. The 2006/07 figures tell the story better than I can.

As a result of calls to Crimestoppers:

A) Someone was arrested in the UK for murder or other unlawful killing every five days.

B) Every day, 17 people were arrested.

C) Drugs with a street value of over £7 million were recovered.

D) Property worth more than £4m was recovered.

Crimestoppers is having a real impact on crime across the county and across the rest of the country.

**Q & A**

The Kent Crimestoppers chairman took the time to talk to **Marijke Cox** about his organisation's work in reducing crime across the county and its recent successes



# OPEN DAY

2-8pm Wednesday 2 July  
www.cant-col.ac.uk 01227 811188

**Canterbury**  
College





**Stars set to appear at Port Lympne's Zoo8 festival get a tour of the wild animal park. Search 'animals'**



**Julie Maddocks checks out Kent International Airport's claims of stress-free travelling. Search 'airport'**



**Rochester bigwigs open the Riverside walk, which they hope will help boost the area. Search 'riverside'**



**Reader Den Johnson's footage of a 2004 storm which battered 99-year-old Doris. Search 'storm'**



**The village of Smarden isn't the first place you'd expect to find tigers, lions and snow leopards. Search 'big cats'**

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

# A show of Kentish pride

Ready to celebrate the county's finest

BY NICK AMES

THE Dancing Diggers team of gyrating JCBs are among the new attractions promised for this year's Kent County Show – which organisers say will be bigger and better than ever.

The event will be at the County Showground, Detling Hill, from Friday to Sunday, July 11-13. Last year's show attracted more than 100,000 spectators.

As well as a performance by the earth-moving machines, there will be many other attractions plus the usual annual celebration of rural and country life.

The Band of the Corps of the Royal Engineers, who were on the hallowed turf of Wembley Stadium before last month's FA Cup Final, will be playing in the main area on all three days.

There will also be a larger countryside area, which will include displays of fly-fishing, ferret racing and birds of prey.

Working gun dogs and other hounds will also be put through their paces, and there will be a group of otters in a recreation of their natural habitat.

The forestry section will show how timber is extracted from woodland, as well as the uses it can be put to in traditional crafts.

The agriculture zone will have an interactive area with the title Why Farming Matters. This will focus on the importance of the industry in the county, including demonstrations of how local produce can be used to create dishes for the table.

"We are expecting a greater number of entries than before in the livestock section," a



**COUNTRY WAYS:** Last year's County Show included a vintage tractor parade and Spitfire flypast, as well as the usual equestrian show-ring events and livestock competitions. This year's show promises to be even better...

County Show official said. "These include cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, llamas, alpacas and even rabbits. And on Sunday we will see a return of the popular donkey classes. We are catering

for shopaholics as well, with everything from conservators to tractors for sale. There will also be a wide range of local produce so people can buy and taste the best of Kent's goods."

Titan the robot will return after his startling appearance last year. The metal giant will be mingling with spectators across the showground.

And KOS Media will also be there, with a marquee showing off our award-winning newspapers, websites and our broadband TV station Yourkentv. Tickets cost £14 in advance, £17 on the gate, with reductions for young people and pensioners. They can be bought online at [www.kentshow.co.uk](http://www.kentshow.co.uk).



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## 2008

- 399,600 nurses
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- Eye surgery is now over within 20 minutes, and most patients are out of the hospital the same day

Please visit our website [www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk](http://www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk) for more facts, information and ways to get involved in the NHS 60 celebrations.

And watch out for more information in the July edition of Health News, the health service newspaper for the people of eastern and coastal Kent!



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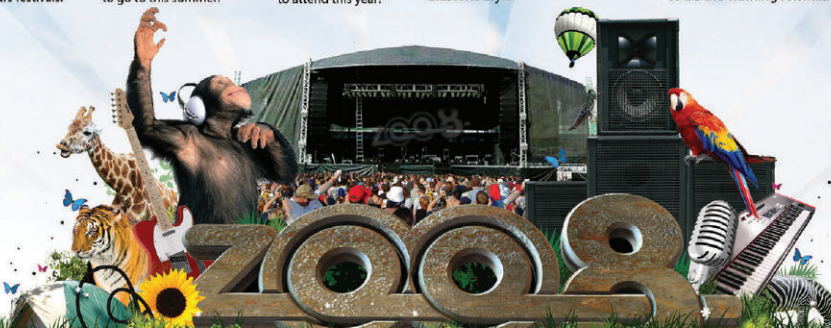
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# Hard shoulder dead end

BY NICK AMES

DRIVERS whose vehicles break down on a section of the M20 could face the "terrifying experience" of being trapped in fast-moving traffic under plans to scrap the hard shoulder.

The Highways Agency want to turn the carriageway set aside for emergencies into a "running lane" as a cheaper alternative to road widening.

It is already being tested on selected motorways elsewhere in the UK.

The agency – which is £3 billion over budget in its road-building programme – says it would save millions on the proposals which affect motorways up and down the country.

Widening a major highway costs £40 million a mile whereas conversion costs £10 million.

The plans propose that traffic safety and driver assistance would be in the hands of CCTV operators who would close the hard shoulder with a series of "X" signs on overhead gantries when they noticed a vehicle in trouble.

The idea is still at an early stage, but a stretch of the M20 in the middle of the county

is one of the areas thought to be under consideration for the scheme. The location has yet to be confirmed.

Nationwide more than 250 miles of the busiest motorways have been suggested, including sections of the M25, M23, M6 and M4 as well as a section of the M1 stretching from the Midlands to the North East.

It is being tested along the M42 east of Birmingham during busy periods and the Highways Agency said there had been "minor collisions" but no deaths or serious injuries.

This had persuaded bosses that the scheme was workable. However, it has come under fire from motoring organisation the AA.

Edmund King, its president, said: "The agency is jumping the gun by reducing the number of refuges [hard shoulders]."

"We are concerned that motorists will be caught short, unable to reach the next refuge and having the terrifying experience of being stopped amid fast-flowing traffic."

The Campaign for Better Transport also disapproves of the plans.

Campaigner Richard George said: "Ministers tried to sell 'hard-shoulder running' as a greener alternative to widening."

"But they keep moving the goalposts and are turning it into a polluting and risky way of squeezing every last inch of capacity out of our roads."



**COLD SHOULDER:** Kent is already accustomed to much creative use of the motorway hard shoulder



**NOBODY HOME:** There are 25,000 empty properties of all types in Kent, says the Green Party

## Plea to get homes running efficiently

EMPTY properties across the county which could go on the market for housing or commercial use must be made energy efficient before sales go ahead, according to the Green Party.

Greens are particularly concerned that low-cost housing should be adapted as it is likely to be lived in by those on the lower end of the wage scale who may not be able to afford the work themselves.

There are an estimated 25,000 empty properties of all types across the county.

These include: 1,922 unused homes in Ashford, 1,395 in Canterbury, 1,835 in Dover, 3,127 across Medway, 1,365 in Swale, 1,564 in Maidstone, 1,557 in Shepway and 1,312 in Thanet.

Green Party spokesman Steve Dawe said: "The huge number of empty properties in Kent – 18,403 homes and the rest commercial buildings – offers a considerable resource to the county council for creating useable homes to the highest standards of energy efficiency."

"As many of these are likely to go into the rental sector or be used for social housing, they are likely to be inhabited by people on low incomes who may not have the cash available to fund such work themselves."

"Therefore it is up to local authorities to undertake the work before such properties go on the market."

"This would allow new residents to meet the challenge of rising energy bills."

Mr Dawe said it was up to the Government to help fund such work.

"Kent councils have limited resources as long as central government allocates so much tax revenue to itself," he added.

## Take it on trust that Big Switch means savings

THE National Trust has launched the Big Switch, a nationwide project to change 40,000 light bulbs in its historic houses and holiday cottages to low-energy alternatives in a bid to cut harmful emissions.

Once installed, the bulbs in the trust's Kent properties will save about 70 tonnes of CO2 each year – equivalent to taking 24 cars off the road for a year.

The move, which will reduce annual energy and maintenance costs by about £13,500, will also include modifying offices, cafes and restaurants owned by the conservation body.

Among the buildings owned by the organisation are Chartwell, former home of Sir

Winston Churchill, Smallhythe Place, near Tenterden, Scotney Castle and the South Foreland Lighthouse.

The trust will plough these savings back into reducing the environmental impact of its properties even further.

"Lighting is really significant for the National Trust, perhaps more than many people appreciate," said head conservator Katy Lithgow.

"Good lighting can help to bring collections alive and allows visitors to enjoy historic interiors. But too much exposure to light is detrimental."

"Ultraviolet (UV) light, the most damaging

part of the spectrum, is not necessary for us to be able to see. If this element is reduced or even eliminated from light sources, the benefits are significant."

As part of the Big Switch, the trust will make use of hundreds of different types of low-energy bulbs, including a new bulb made by Philips called the Master Classic. It uses technology which emits less UV.

Ms Lithgow said: "New developments in energy-saving light bulbs have enabled us to undertake our Big Switch."

"We have now been able to change bulbs in many locations without compromising the appearance of our collections for visitors."

### "Acupuncture Helps You!"

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### Chatham Chinese Herbal Centre Celebrating 5 years of business

One of our patients, Tony Hastings, came to us recently with shoulder pain. This is his story...



#### Ouch! Shoulder Ache

Ouch! One morning I found myself waking up with a very painful shoulder. I assumed that all needed was a few weeks rest and it would be fine. Weeks later it was still hurting. I did try some heat patches from the Chemist, which eased the aching for a short while, but it kept coming back. I went to the Chatham Chinese Herbal Centre and after a free consultation had a session of acupuncture. I expected it to hurt but it was not unpleasant and within an hour my shoulder felt fine. Within a week it was back to normal. I'm back at work and have not had any more problems, but if I do I would be happy to go for acupuncture again. I'm convinced it helped me.

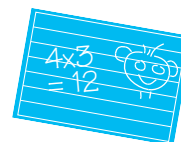
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# Head pleased good qualities noted in report

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

ASSESSORS found signs of steady improvement after a recent Ofsted inspection of Deanwood Primary School.

They awarded the Gillingham school 'satisfactory' in five of seven categories and rated these areas as moving in the right direction.

The inspectors marked the other two categories as 'good'.

Leading officer Joan Greenfield wrote in her in-depth report: "Deanwood provides pupils a satisfactory standard of education."

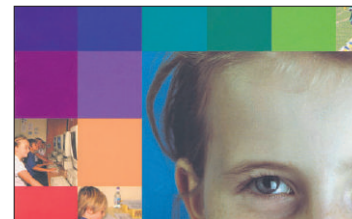
"Under the effective and determined leadership of the headteacher, the school is steadily improving and shows signs of becoming a better school than it currently is, as there is a clear focus on raising standards further."

"The strengthening of the leadership team, together with robust systems for checking the school's work, are providing an effective platform for accelerating the school's progress."

"Improvements are clearly evident in the good provision for children in the foundation stage and when they transfer into year one, as well as in one of the year four to five mixed-age classes."

The foundation stage was one of two areas dubbed as 'good' in the report, with the other being the personal development of pupils.

Parents were found to be largely positive about the school, which caters for 174 four to 11-year-olds, noting its 'open-door' approach



**DEANWOOD:** Five satisfactory categories says Ofsted and commenting favourably on how well staff know their children.

Pupils were also found to enjoy coming to school, and to have a good understanding of how to keep safe and lead healthy lifestyles.

They contribute well to their school and local community too, according to the report.

Headteacher Robin Halls said: "I'm pleased that our good qualities have been recognised in this report, and that's thanks to the hard work of everyone here."

"We are committed to further improving standards throughout the school for the benefit of all our pupils."

Medway council's director of children's services Rose Collinson added: "I am very pleased that the report reflects the work being done by the headteacher and his staff team, parents, governors and pupils to make Deanwood a good self-improving school with a community feel, where children can develop and flourish and increasingly are making progress and achieving."

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## BREAK TIME



**LOVE OF BOOKS:** Allhallows school children cheer the mobile library on its first anniversary touring schools

## Library on wheels marks first year

**BOOKWORMS** at Allhallows Primary School helped mark the first birthday of Medway's children's mobile library.

In the past year the library has welcomed 22,500 pupils through its doors and has rented out 20,000 books to youngsters aged between four and 11.

The popular library visits 18 schools regularly during term time and stocks a wide selection of books including fiction, non-fiction, picture books, modern classics such as Harry Potter and family favourites by Roald Dahl.

Allhallows' assistant headteacher Sandi James said: "The children really value the mobile library coming out to them."

"It not only encourages them to read but also to take responsibility for the care of the books."

Medway council's community services chief Howard Doe added: "The mobile library gives children the chance to discover books and the joy of reading."

"We hope it will encourage pupils to investigate libraries close to where they live and the services they offer."

## Megan receives medal for Dickens

**CREATIVE** youngsters across Medway have been busy putting pen to paper to mark the 30th annual Rochester Dickens Festival.

Pupils at eight primary schools took part in a Charles Dickens writing competition, which set them the challenge of writing about the famous author.

Megan Mackintosh from Chattenden

Primary School was named as overall winner at an awards ceremony held at the Corn Exchange in Rochester, while Chloe Potts from St Mary's Catholic Primary School took the runner-up place.

All children who took part received a medal for their efforts. Megan's school was also given a £100 cheque to put towards their English department.

SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)



# yourmedwayblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Medway...



## Rub down with stripper left me very red-faced

"IT DOES exactly what it says on the tin," is not only one of the most memorable advertising slogans ever, they are words you ignore at your peril.

I should explain that I recently had an encounter with a very evil substance in such a tin. I am not a complete stranger to dealing with dangerous chemicals.

In the past I have used weedkillers, all sorts of solvents and glues, battery acids and even Tabasco sauce, but none of them has ever given me problems like the stuff I recently had the misfortune to come across.

I will refrain from naming the product for legal reasons. Let's just say the substance in question is used to strip antifouling paint from the hull of a boat.

Antifouling is used to prevent barnacles and weed growing on the bottom. Such growth severely slows a boat down and adds to fuel consumption. And let's face it, with fuel the price it is at the moment, every £100 counts.

However, after a while the effectiveness of the antifouling paint wears out, so you have to take it all off. This can be a laborious process, using hand scrapers and sandpaper, taking hundreds of man hours and pushing patience to the limit.

Over the years, chemical strippers have been created to effortlessly dissolve the stuff away.

What they neglect to say is that this stuff has the same corrosive power as the blood from the monster in the Alien movies.

OK, so it did say on the tin to take precautions and avoid getting it on the skin; all of which I did. I was covered from head to toe in health and safety attire.

Yet despite looking like the Michelin man about to do some snorkelling, I still managed to get some of this stuff on my face.

It did sting, so I washed it off immediately, as the advice on the tin suggested. I continued diligently applying the goo to every square inch of the boat for the rest of the day until I was finished.

Unfortunately, when I got home and looked in the mirror I discovered bright red blotches

all over my face. To say that I looked as if I had been dragged backwards through a hedge is an understatement. The Amazonian rain forest would be more accurate, and not the nice green part either, but the horrible scorched earth bits that have been burned by loggers and burger companies to make space for beef cattle.

I admit my face was never going to be my fortune, I'd be lucky if it got me the price of a cup of tea, but I am used to it.

To suddenly see it looking like a mottled beetroot was a bit of a shock to the system. The worst thing was the prospect of work the next day.

I did wonder if I could pull off some glamorous lie about sorting out a bloke who owed me money, or uttering chirpy remarks about how "You should see the other guy!" but I'm a rubbish liar.

What I would say is this stuff certainly is good for getting rid of the wrinkles. Ladies, forget micro-dermabrasion and botox, why not go for the cheap option and get some antifouling stripper?

### GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



EMAIL: Letters, comments, views (along with your name) to: [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk)



TEXT: **MEDW** then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include your name)

### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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Advertising Announcement

# Enjoy hot bargains at Wilkinson this summer!

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Shoppers can look forward to kitting themselves out for less this summer as Wilkinson's newest store opens in the heart of Sittingbourne on High Street. Whether you're shopping for garden parties, BBQ's, picnics or lazy afternoons, the new store will provide everything you need for a perfect summer, all at unbeatable prices.

Unveiling its diverse range to the public on Wednesday 9th July 2008, the new Sittingbourne store will stock a huge collection of everyday items, such as garden products, kitchenware, DIY and general homeware, not to mention a wide range of toiletries and cleaners.

Local residents and families are invited to come down and enjoy the fun with the Wilkinson team at the official opening. The celebrations will also be spilling into the weekend, as the store hosts its family fun day on Saturday 12th July. As well as free balloons and sweets, there will also be a face painter in store, creating fantastic free designs to keep the children entertained.



Opening Day Celebrations Wednesday 9th July - live performance from 'Big Fish Band' to keep the kids entertained, official ribbon cutting and a balloon modeller.

Plus a great Family Fun Day on Saturday 12th July with Free Face Painting and the 'Fulson Zebras' girls football club performing football skills.

Store manager Crawford Ansell is looking forward to revealing the new Wilkinson store to the shoppers of Sittingbourne: "The town centre is currently undergoing a regeneration project, which includes providing better shops for the local community. The arrival of the new Wilkinson store is the first step in this re-development and people are extremely excited to witness this new shopping experience. Customers will relish the bargains in store and will enjoy having a one-stop-shop at their doorstep for everything they could possibly need in and

around the home."

The 18,500 sq ft Sittingbourne store is the 305th Wilkinson to open in the UK and it brings with it a massive 110 new jobs to the Sittingbourne area, a great boost for the local economy and another reason for the community to celebrate.

Watch this space for more announcements of further community projects Wilkinson will be supporting in and around Sittingbourne and don't forget to show your support if you see the Wilkinson team!

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# yourcompetition

## WIN Hot hits for a great summer

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Summer Holiday Dance Party will transform all you movers and shakers into funky non-stop dance machines. Grab those dancing shoes and prepare to work it.

Packed with the hottest summer classics, anthems and dance routines, this superb CD and DVD combo should heat up your dance floor and get you strutting your stuff to 23 of the greatest scorching floorfillers around!

Featuring some colossal hits, including the Cha Cha Slide, Macarena, Livin' la Vida Loca, Saturday Night, Holiday, Shine, About You Now, The Ketchup Song, Can't Get You Out Of My Head, and the infectious Crank That... summer won't get much hotter than this.

And as if that's not all, the album also comes with a fantastic bonus DVD where you can dance along with the Summer Dance Girls as they show you the moves to your all time favourite dance tunes including Something Kinda Ooooh, 5,6,7,8, I Don't Feel Like Dancing and Reach.

We have five albums up for grabs, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Summer CD, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is July 7, 2008.

**Question: How many scorching floorfillers are on the great Summer CD?**

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature on your entry'.



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# yourletters



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**EMAIL:** Email us your letters to us at yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

## TALK TIME

### SEAN FUREY

The Kent deputy director of the Campaign to Protect Rural England talks about the pressure group's work.



#### How did you first get into campaigning on countryside issues?

I've been interested in the environment since school - geography was the only subject I was any good at! I've travelled, worked and led expeditions in some amazing parts of the world, but it is in the English countryside where I feel most at home.

#### What would you say to the charge that your group is just a mouthpiece for Nimbyism?

CPRE is a charity that is wholly funded by its members. People join because they want a strong, independent voice on countryside, environment and planning issues. All too often, elected members let down their constituents by getting bogged down in party politics, or they get lured by promises of new jobs, whatever the cost. We support local groups and individuals where proposals are clearly wrong, not just for local reasons, which are often valid, but also on wider environmental, social and economic grounds as well.

#### What are the best alternatives to landfill rubbish disposal that do not impact on the countryside?

Reduce. Re-use. Recycle. In a truly sustainable economy there is no waste, only renewable resources. If everyone in the world used natural resources in the same way as we do in Medway we would need three planets to keep going. I think we had better use the one we have more sensibly.

#### Can technology be the answer to some of the problems we are facing environmentally?

Yes. Technology is great, along with good science, sound economics and inclusive democracy. However, while we often use technology to solve specific problems, it has a nasty knack of creating unintended consequences. Fossil fuels are the best example: without them we would probably still be a small farming society with an average life-expectancy of 35. Instead we have a globalised society that is thrusting us into a very uncertain future.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Bob does it again to upset Gordon



### He's a rebel with a very good cause

I write to congratulate Bob Marshall-Andrews for taking a stand against Prime Minister Gordon Brown's 42-day detention element of the Counter-Terrorism Bill.

Our Medway MP has always been a bit of a rebel, but it's good to see he's still got it in him. The new law was forced through in a desperate fashion by the Government.

So it's good to see Bob refusing to toe the party line and standing up for his beliefs.

We all know he is nearing the end of his political career and is not risking as much as Tory David Davis, who resigned as shadow home secretary to mount his one-man civil liberties campaign.

But I commend Bob for supporting him and let's hope they can make Mr Brown sit up and take notice of what the country wants for a change.

Claire Rogers, Rochester

### Greedy, gutless and unaccountable

Until the 1990s, public institutions and services were independently managed. There



## COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Strood, as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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was some sense of responsibility and accountability.

Our postmen and the Royal Mail were outstanding.

Unlike Beeching and the Conservatives, who brutally chopped down railway services and infrastructure, the slow

death of postal services was carried out enthusiastically by Thatcherites and New Labour copycats.

They blame the EU, but I felt fearful for the future of Royal Mail ever since we lost our High Street post offices. Local councils are more of an evil than a blessing. They long ago passed their sell-by date. They have been incorporated into greedy, gutless Britain that feeds off people.

No matter how hard-pressed we are, unfair laws force us to pay council tax and millions in local government pay and pensions.

They have no purpose any more. Local councils trying to muscle in on former public institutions is very worrying.

They have out-sourced housing and become secondary tax and revenue gatherers. Now they want to take over our post offices. It does not make sense, but if they get the government subsidy, councils will have more of our cash to play with.

Name and address withheld on request, by email

## Families of disabled need every penny

There are 770,000 disabled children living in the UK and most are cared for at home by a family member.

These families face enormous financial challenges, with more than half living in poverty.

Despite this, many families are not claiming the benefits they are entitled to. For those claiming, it is crucial to get regular advice to maximise income, as changes in benefit rules or family circumstances can have an impact.

From October 27, incapacity benefit and income support for people with health problems will

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be replaced by the employment support allowance (ESA). Families with a disabled teenager born before October 27, 1992, have a choice: they can either claim the existing benefits now or wait and claim ESA at a later date. Some will be worse off on the new ESA, depending on individual circumstances. It is important that families get advice now to find out how it will affect them. There are an estimated 28,000 families in the UK who are missing out on much-needed extra income through additional tax credits because they do not know to tell Revenue and Customs they are receiving disability living allowance.

Contact a Family, the national charity that supports families of disabled children, has a freephone helpline – 0808 808 3555 – staffed by benefits experts and trained advisers. We urge families with a disabled child to call the helpline to make sure they are getting every penny they are entitled to.

Srabani Sen,  
chief executive, Contact a Family

## So it's true, the best things in life are free

I have just picked up my first copy of Yourmedway and would like to say what a delight it is to read. Thank you. It's just a pity you don't

deliver to houses as I live in Halling and have never seen a copy of this free newspaper until now. Thanks again.

Pamela Parker, Halling,  
by email

## Pavement dangers put lives at risk

A painful foot injury I incurred while working on Strictly Come Dancing last year really brought home to me how difficult it can be to go about your everyday life when your mobility is limited.

It not only restricts your independence but it is also a significant knock to your confidence.

My injuries were temporary, but for the millions of older people who have fallen on broken paving, their injuries are often permanent and life-threatening.

A shocking 2.5 million (26 per cent) of people aged over 65 in the UK have fallen to the ground due to damaged or uneven pavements and nearly three million older people think that the pavements in their areas are sub-standard.

As falls are a leading cause of death for over 75s, something must be done to improve pavements across the UK.

Help the Aged has just held its fourth National Falls Awareness



TAKE A STAND: GMTV presenter Kate Garraway

Day, sponsored by Stannah Stairlifts, to hold councils to account for the poor paving in their areas.

Since last year the charity has successfully lobbied councils to improve reported broken pavements within a year.

Older people should not be risking their lives by simply walking down the street and certainly should not have to live in fear of leaving their homes.

Kate Garraway,  
former Meridian presenter,  
now GMTV host, by email

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\* Fare shown includes a £2.50 each way web discount. This promotion is valid for travel any day from tomorrow until to 30 September 2008. Bookings can be made from today until 29th September 2008. A £5 supplement applies for travel between 14 July and 03 September. A £10 surcharge is applicable on tickets booked to travel on Saturdays. Offer excludes Fri-Sun travel between 14 July and 03 September inclusive.

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**Sainsbury's Wine offer:** The two offers can only be bought from Sainsbury's Wine Store in Calais by September 30th 2008. Offer can only be redeemed on production of the appropriate P&O Ferries ticket at the checkout. Subject to availability. The law does not permit the sale of alcohol to persons under the age of 18 years. Please drink responsibly. Offer not transferable. No photocopies accepted.





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**SPANKING ROMP:** The characters in London Assurance play out a comedy of manners highlighting the differences between town and country

# Assured – and marvellous fun

## Play credited with inspiring Oscar Wilde

**MONEY**, manners and mayhem combine to create the funny and elegant romantic comedy London Assurance.

Credited with inspiring Oscar Wilde, the play by Irish playwright Dion Boucicault is believed by many to be as good as The Importance of Being Earnest.

With its misunderstandings, mistaken identities and ridiculous scenarios, the 167-year-old play is still making audiences roll with laughter.

The cast includes Christopher Ryan who played Mike The Cool Person in cult comedy The Young Ones.

He also had regular roles as Dave Hedgehog in Ade Edmondson and Rik Mayall's Bottom and as Edina's ex-husband Marshall in Absolutely Fabulous. In London Assurance he plays meek Adolphus Spanker, with Geraldine McNulty – Mrs Raven from My Hero – as his overbearing wife Lady Gay Spanker.

The play is a comedy of manners

#### LONDON ASSURANCE

Wednesday to Saturday, July 2-5  
Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury



focusing on the differences between town and country.

A beautiful young woman, Grace, is engaged to marry Sir Harcourt Courtly, an aging fop in his 60s who pretends to be much younger.

Grace is forced to marry him otherwise she will lose her substantial inheritance to Sir Harcourt's decadent son Charles, but she accepts her situation stoically.

When Charles finds himself visiting Grace's home in the country – at the instigation of his slippery friend Dazzle he is unaware that Grace is his father's fiancée and begins to court her. But when Sir Harcourt arrives he is forced to assume a different identity.

Things become even more complicated when the Spankers turn up and Sir Harcourt becomes aware of a growing attraction to Lady Spanker. The riotous fun unfolds as all the characters attempt to unravel the tangled situation.

Also starring are Ken Bradshaw as Dazzle, Mike Burnside as Grace's uncle Max, Laurence Mitchell as Charles and Clare Corbett in her first lead professional role as Grace.

The production is directed by Nikolai Foster, whose recent work includes a national tour of Aspects of Love starring David Essex and Dead Funny for Oldham Coliseum's National Tour.

"Boucicault's accessible, witty and electrifying language stands the test of time and his colourful, multifaceted characters never fail to inspire, delight and intrigue," Foster said. "Our production is set very much in the period it was intended, with the occasional modern twist."

"I am thrilled to be working with such an accomplished, exquisitely talented group of actors on this remarkable text."

Performances start at 7.30pm with 2.30pm matinees on Thursday and Saturday.

Tickets are priced from £9.50 to £19. To book call the box office on 01227 787787 or go to [www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com).



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## THE RYES

Friday, June 27  
Beacon Court Tavern, Gillingham



GRASP the chance to see the best upcoming bands in action, as one of them could be the next big thing.

Headliners The Lovedays really stand out from many bands on the Kent scene, playing folk-influenced rock with the benefit of an energetic front man in Ben Jones. Since releasing their debut EP When The Lights Went Out in September, The Lovedays have become one of the most talked-about bands in Medway.

Support will be provided by The Ryes (pic-

tured), a band which is making great strides in the music industry.

They are signed to major record label 14th Floor, part of Warner Music UK, which is also home to impressive acts such as The Wombats and Biffy Clyro. The Ryes have appeared on Dermot O'Leary's Radio 2 show, supported Scouting For Girls, Ben's Brother and The Holloways and been voted Best Live Band by Channel 4.

Sittingbourne indie punk band The Suggestions will also provide support, with new four-piece The Racket opening the show.

The gig starts at 8.30pm and there are no under-18s allowed. Tickets cost £5 on the door or £4 if bought in advance at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

## CHANELLE HAYES

Saturday, June 28  
Air & Breathe, Dartford



TWIN venue nightclub Air & Breathe will celebrate its new look with a visit from reality TV star Chanelle Hayes.

The club will be unveiling the results of its rolling refurbishment on Thursday but it will be just the start of a programme of entertainment, starting with a fantastic party featuring Chanelle, 20. The Posh Spice wannabe appeared on Big Brother last year and has launched a pop career. She will be performing her debut single I Want It at the Essex Road club.

Chanelle was just a 19-year-old student when she entered Channel 4's famous house last summer, where her romance with fellow contestant Zachery 'Ziggy' Lichman was soon the talk of the house.

Since then she has worked as a TV presenter and a model, as well as releasing her own calendar and perfume.

Future guests at Air & Breathe are due to include dance acts Cahill, Fragma featuring Coco and the One Love stage performers.

Air is a club for over-18s while Breathe pro-



vides exclusive plush surroundings for over-23s. To find out more, call 01322 222423 or visit [www.airandbreathe.com](http://www.airandbreathe.com).



## SIMON AMSTELL

Saturday, June 28  
Central Theatre, Chatham



TICKETS to see razor-witted comedian Simon Amstell have been selling fast since his Medway date was announced.

The award-winning young comic has proved to be a hit with viewers since taking over from Mark Lamarr as host of Never Mind The Buzzcocks. Amstell became the youngest ever finalist at the BBC New

Comedy Awards and started his television career as a presenter on Nickelodeon. He made his name on Popworld, a teen music show which he hosted with Miquita Oliver for six years. The programme gained a cult following for its humour and interviews which often poked fun at celebrity subjects.

Containing strong language, the stand-up show has attracted critical acclaim for Amstell's sophisticated and honest material.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19/£17. Call the box office on 01634 338338 or at [www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking).

## MEDWAY LEISURE

### Go with the flow and enjoy Aussie band

RISING stars Operator Please will headline a night of live music at the Beacon Court Tavern in Gillingham on Tuesday.

The young Australian band released a successful debut album earlier this year and has supported Lightspeed Champion, The Futureheads and The Mystery Jets. Support comes from Medway band The Long Weekend, which will be appearing at the ZOOS festival in July, and local trio Aliquot Flow.

The gig is for over-16s and starts at 8.15pm. Tickets cost £8 on the door or £7 from [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com) or [www.see tickets.com](http://www.see tickets.com).

### Murder signals end to summer in tense play

A DEFIANT old lady is convinced that her companion has been murdered in Summer End, a play by Eric Chappell.

Rainham Theatrical Society presents the tense and humorous play by the writer of Rising Damp. When a resident in a home points the finger of suspicion at staff, it is eventually turned on her.

The play will run at the Oasthouse Theatre on July 3 to 5 and July 10 to 12. To book call 01634 233660.

### Take a walk on the wild side a la Hogarth

FOLLOW in the footsteps of artist William Hogarth with the next Historical Hillwalker outing.

Hogarth famously walked from Rochester to Grain in 1732, sketching as he went. Now people have the chance to follow his route.

The walk will take place on Saturday. Places are free but will need to be reserved in advance. To book email Dave at [info@urbanfoxpress.com](mailto:info@urbanfoxpress.com).

### Amateur production of best of the musicals

CELEBRATE the best of the musicals at the Brook Theatre in Chatham.

Feast & Co Performing Arts presents Musical Showcase, an amateur production featuring songs from Oliver, Bugsy Malone, Wicked, High School Musical, Annie, Les Miserables and many more.

The show starts at 7.30pm on Saturday and tickets cost £12. Book tickets on 01634 338338 or online at [www.medway.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatres).

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Julie Maddocks takes in a cruise down the Thames from Gravesend



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## Village a verve of victorious vibes

### Hotel offers more than just a dining experience

#### ■ Village Hotel

THIS is one hotel that is difficult to put into any simple category but it really does bring something new to the hotel and leisure market and whatever your interest, there is something for everyone.

David White is the operations manager, he explained the thinking behind the Village Hotel: "Village has 17 sites across the UK catering for all demographics with an option for everyone. Village prides itself on its price competitiveness and adds a modern vibe to the hotel and leisure market."

"Walk in and taste the vibe. Not only is the menu deliciously dotted with modern classics, but step into the verve and you can almost taste the ambience – and its spot on!"

The hotel has 122 bedrooms, the Verve Grill Restaurant, which can seat 130 people, the Victory Pub, conference and banqueting suites, an extensive leisure club which includes a 25 metre pool) and the Vibe Café.

David said: "Village Hotels cannot be star rated based on its diverse offering. If you walk into a Village you can feel the vibe atmosphere as if you were in your local village and all your conveniences are under one roof with a touch of style at great prices. The Leisure Club could easily be a standalone club and the food is cooked fresh daily."

He knows what makes the restaurants so popular: "Great food and ambience makes a real impact. However, I have always found customer oriented staff with a real emphasis on polite, friendly and efficient service has always been more important. If you have great staff that are focused on the needs of your guests they will always make the night."

And Paul Rutter is not a typical head chef according to David. He said: "The traits he portrays are: passion and commitment for food and team development. He is highly flexible and always commits to 100 per cent consistency. He has the right balance for a highly effective team player."

Visitors think his food is pretty good as well. Verve grill offers a wide range of dishes made fresh everyday with regular seasonal changes to shake up the menu, at a price that's right.

Then there is the Sunday Best – a four course carvery lunch for just £12.95, when you can fill up your plate as many times you like. Visit Victory Pub & Kitchen and experience proper pub grub from 9oz burgers, two for £10.

Opening times are: leisure club 6.30am-10pm, restaurant 7am-10pm, pub 11am-1am (residents bar after hours), café 7am-7pm. Access is 24 hours.

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## Coco on the gogo

### ■ Coco Diner

THIS Diner in Chatham High Street offers a completely new Indian experience.

It is believed to be the first and only restaurant in Kent to provide dishes from areas such as Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, which make up South India.

Diners are offered a selection of the most exquisite and varied cuisines and the results are very different from the usual Indian food most people in the UK have been eating for the past 25 years.

The emphasis at Coco Diner is to offer more healthy food, using less oil, sugar and artificial additives and to make much more use of natural herbs, spices and flavourings.

The highly-experienced and award-winning chef Binu Raj and his team recreate a variety of gourmet flavours to challenge the taste buds of the clientele.

But, having cooked for chefs Jamie Oliver, and Peter Gordon, Lakshmi Mittal, the Indian cricket team, and Gwyneth Paltrow and her husband Chris Martin, he is confident this novel and delightful dining experience will be enjoyed by everyone.



Customers can enjoy a Sunday gourmet buffet at £7.95, which is proving particularly popular, while for those on the go during the week, a special Tiffin box is available at £3.95.

You can even arrange to hold a private function at the restaurant, plus the staff can provide outside catering for parties of 50 to 1,000. Take away and home delivery service is also offered.

Just behind the restaurant are large car parks at Union Place and Union Street.

## Be guided to a good curry

### ■ Spice Court

"MANY have come and gone but Spice Court has always stayed going on and this proves it is a good place to eat," says the owner Raja. His motto for success is "Give 100 per cent all of the time".

Spice Court claims to be the premiere restaurant in the Medway area. Serving delicious food in the heart of Medway, they pride themselves on not only the quality of food, but also the friendliness of service.

Established in 2001, they specialise in quality contemporary Indian and Bangladeshi Cuisine. Spice Court has won many awards, including the Cobra Good Curry Guide. In addition to our regular clientele, we are always attracting a wide range of customers to sample our comfortable atmosphere, incredible facilities, and great service. Not to mention the food!

Found opposite Gillingham Station, Spice Court is just off the High Street, meaning customers have ease of access. The restaurant boasts a modern and trendy setting with both modern British and Indian artwork. All areas are fully air-conditioned to put you at ease.

Two of our strong points which have been mentioned in the reviews are the bar and the disabled facilities. Spice Court has been



noticed for being very accessible for our disabled users. A disabled ramp is provided at the front of the restaurant. All our lighting is fully adjustable for partially-sighted patrons, as well as large-print menus. One of our staff is also trained in sign language for those who are hard of hearing, and of course special allowances are made for all our customers, such as extra space if required.

The bar provides a focal point for all our customers, both before a meal and after. The bar also plans many future promotions. We are also renowned for our cocktails, and a new cocktail menu is in the pipeline, so watch out!

The most popular dish at the moment is Marisa chicken, made with fresh chilli, Taba chicken, garlic herb yogurt and special spices, then sizzling chicken, made with pieces of chicken, sliced onion.

### CHEF RECOMMENDS

#### Coco Diners

Start with koli varuval, succulent nuggets of tender chicken marinated with lemon juice, garam masala and then deep fried. Main try a paper-thin rice pancake sandwiched with a filling of spicy potato, with sambhar and coconut chutney, neyychor rice (saffron and ghee flavoured aromatic basmati rice) and appam bread. For desert enjoy kesree bhat: semolina cooked in pure ghee, laced with alphonso mango and saffron flavoured sugar syrup then topped with fried cashew nuts and sultanas. Accompany with cocktails.

#### Twydall Tandoori

Begin with Twiddle's Jinga Suks, mild spiced grilled king prawns in a tandoori oven and served in a sour sauce or tandoori mixed starter, which consists of tandoor chicken and lamb, chicken tikka and shish kebab.

Then try Ayre Fish, diced and marinated with garlic and spices, served with a medium to mild hot soya sauce or chicken or lamb Lojoti, meat grilled in tandoori prepared in a special sauce with mushrooms. Accompany with garlic of lemon rice.

#### Village Hotel

Don't be afraid to ask for deviations from the menu. When food is cooked fresh, requests to amend how it is prepared are not an issue... Grilled rather than fried, no butter, no cream and so on... If you are dining with young children book at the earliest possible time and order children's food first whilst you decide yourself. That way children don't get over hungry and anxious and their food arrives quickly.

#### The See Ho

Favourites are skate wing with brown butter and capers. Mussels in wine and garlic, when in season. You could start with pate and toast, prawn cocktail, or garlic mushrooms. Then try rib eye steak, fillet steak, minted lamb shank, fresh fish, or vegetarian pasta bake. End with poached pear, apple and blackcurrant pie or lemon merrangue.

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To add a touch of bling to your make up, Barry M's Gem Liquid Eyeliners (£4.50) have a great range of unusual colours from 80s electric blue to mermaid green.

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**Keep skin smooth and sweet even in the heat**

BUDGET beauty range Anatomicals has introduced even more funky products to its range.

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Gorgon (Gone, Gone, Gone) Zola (£3) foot cream will keep your tootsies fresh.

The range is available at selected Boots stores or online at [www.anatomicals.net](http://www.anatomicals.net).

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For more information see in-store.

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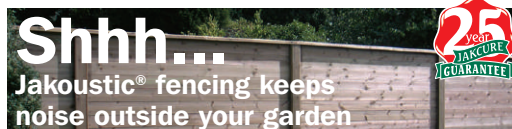
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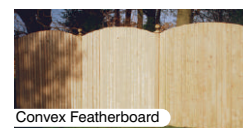
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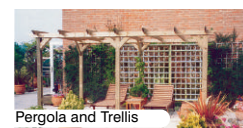


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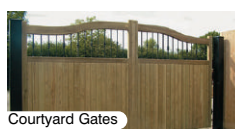


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# your medway music

## Prepare to be rocked

BY SIMON ROBINSON

GODFATHERS of glam punk The New York Dolls will headline the second day of this year's Lounge on the Farm festival.

The influential '70s outfit, famed for their extravagant and raucous performances, will truly test the 'lounge' aspect of the three-day event's name – bringing their trademark rock, rock and more rock sound to Merton Farm's cow shed.

For those not in the know regarding all things Dolls, the American hell-raisers provided the inspiration for the likes of Kiss and Motley Crue, and even the UK's most-cherished anti-establishment/monarchy/order rock 'n' rollers, the Sex Pistols.

They're also cited as having a major impact on The Smiths, but that's somewhat of a misnomer so it's best to ignore that altogether.

A spokesman for the Canterbury-based LOTF festival said: "We're utterly ecstatic to be able to announce that legendary proto-punk heroes The New York Dolls will be headlining the Cow Shed on Saturday evening.

"As the band's only UK headline festival appearance for 2008 this is a gilt-edged opportunity to catch one of rock 'n' roll's greatest live bands at close-quarters.

"David Johansen, Sylvain Sylvain and crew are set to plough through the old classics like Trash and Jet Boy, as well as new material from their recent One Day It Will Please Us to Remember Even This album, which is sure to blow the straw from your ears."

Other acts confirmed to appear from Friday, July 11, to Sunday, June 13, include mellow Liverpudlians The Coral – doing an acoustic



**ONLY HEADLINE PERFORMANCE:** The legendary The New York Dolls will appear in the Cow Shed at Lounge on the Farm

set – the slightly unhinged Art Brut and London oddballs Mystery Jets.

DJ sets will also be provided by former Specials frontman Terry Hall and his Dexy's Midnight Runners equivalent, Kevin Rowland.

Aside from the music, LOTF organisers have stayed true to their humble ethos of including locally-produced food and drink into the equation by announcing a Kentish recipe contest.

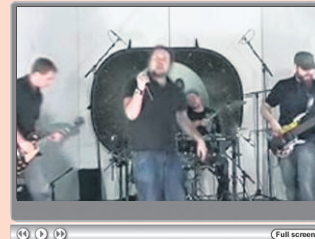
Wannabe Gordon Ramsays are invited to submit their favourite recipes to [recipe@loungeonthe-farm.co.uk](mailto:recipe@loungeonthe-farm.co.uk) or in person at the Samphire restaurant in Whitstable.

These tasty treats will then be whittled down to a top five and prepared live on the final day of the festival by their kitchen supremo Rob Cooper.

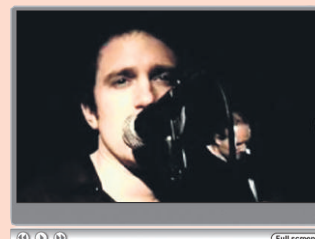
Masterchef's Gregg Wallace will be on hand to pick his favourite, earning its creator a free meal for four at the restaurant and their creation a place on the menu.

For more information visit [www.loungeonthe-farm.co.uk](http://www.loungeonthe-farm.co.uk).

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# yourmedwaytimeout

## YOUR TV REVIEW

**TOP GEAR**  
BBC2, 8pm, Sunday  
**MY NAME IS EARL**  
Channel 4, 10pm, Friday

BY TOM BETTS

**TV MONSTER** Top Gear returned to our tellyboxes on Sunday, and Clarkson and co didn't waste much time in burning enough petrol to run a Shell garage dry while tearing a new hole in the ozone layer.

Not that anyone will really care – I mean what's the future of our planet when compared with an hour's quality escapism?

It's remarkable how this show has become engrained into the national psyche in the past few years, especially since, in its former incarnation (more motoring magazine show than jet-propelled stunt festival), it was axed.

Top Gear has since gone on to become event TV, not easy in a world where we have about 200 channels to choose from.

Millions of us, including many such as me who really don't care much about cars, sit down on a Sunday night for our petroleum fix to drool at cars we know we'll never own.

While it is Clarkson and Hammond who dominate the headlines and often the show itself, for me it is James May who is the real star of the show.

The eminently watchable, shaggy-haired slowcoach, the type of Englishman we thought had perhaps disappeared altogether from our green and pleasant land, has long been the brunt of his cohorts' jokes.

Occasionally it has been with good reason, but to counteract Hammond's



**TOP BOYS:** Hammond, Clarkson and May have made BBC2's Top Gear must-see television

sarcasm and Clarkson's bombastic 'I'm-always-right' bravado, there is no better man in my book.

Indeed, it is undoubtedly the interaction between the three different characters that makes the wheels of this programme spin, and long may the wheels remain turning.

If ever there were an easier to-dip-into show than American comedy My Name is Earl, then I've yet to find it.

Starring Jason Lee as the personable title character this little gem, it is worth half-an-hour of anyone's time.

Our hero is a lotto winner and intent on making the most of his good fortune by righting the wrongs he committed in the past and rebalancing his karma.

This series has taken place within the confines of a prison and, despite our protagonist being very much the free spirit, the switch has kept the formula from going stale.

Like Top Gear, it's one to take in if the words 'enjoyable romp' describe your kind of taste.

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



**AQUARIUS** (Jan 21-Feb 19)  
**YOUR** health gets a tremendous boost. If you've been suffering from a nagging ache or pain, you could finally get the right diagnosis or treatment. Be sure to write down an appointment with a business or romantic partner or you could forget all about it.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

**TAURUS** (Apr 21-May 21)  
**BULLYING** your family will reflect poorly on you. Although you think you're perfectly justified in speaking out, outsiders will see your behaviour quite differently. Keep in mind you may be too emotionally involved with this situation to think about it rationally.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753

**LEO** (Jul 24-Aug 23)  
**ASSUMING** a low profile is best right now. You're easily irritated and may take out your anger on a loved one. If you feel your temper starting to spiral out of control, retreat to a quiet place where you can collect yourself. It's especially important to be patient with your nearest and dearest.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756

**SCORPIO** (Oct 24-Nov 22)  
**YOU'RE** eager to expand your horizons. Beware of giving an ultimatum to an authority figure or you could get in serious trouble. Although your temper is justified, he is in a position of power and you are not. Try to let off steam at the gym or on the sports field.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759

**PISCES** (Feb 20-Mar 20)  
**A COMPULSION** to rage against the machine will subside this week. Right now, you're more interested in affairs of the heart. A reliable friend could take some responsibilities from your shoulders, which comes as a huge relief. Beware of overindulging or you could get a bad reputation.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763

**GEMINI** (May 22-Jun 22)  
**SOMEONE'S** vague directions are driving you to distraction. It may be impossible to contain your frustration with this person. Put down your feelings in writing, and then have a third party review this note before you send it. Resist the urge to get personal in your communications.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754

**VIRGO** (Aug 24-Sep 23)  
**YOU'LL** have more time for social pursuits, which comes as a welcome relief. You could be put in charge of a large team effort. You'll get more out of the group by praising their strengths than focusing on their weaknesses. That doesn't mean you should abandon your standards.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23-Dec 21)  
**YOUR** love life is heating up. Suddenly it doesn't seem so scary to relinquish your independence in the name of love. Take care not to make an expert look foolish, or you could make an enemy of this person. This may not bother you now, but you may need this authority's help later.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760

**ARIES** (Mar 21-Apr 20)  
**UNREALISTIC** expectations of a friend could prompt an angry outburst. If a loved one has a history of being unable to perform in a certain capacity, find someone else to do the job. Spending more time at home gives you an opportunity to express your creativity.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752

**CANCER** (Jun 23-Jul 23)  
**THE** spotlight will be trained firmly on you this week. There's never been a better time to interview for jobs, ask for favours and display your creative work. Be sure to take some constructive criticism to heart. A few small changes could turn a good project into a great one.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755

**LIBRA** (Sep 24-Oct 23)  
**CAREER** matters are highlighted. If you want a promotion or high profile job, now is the time to apply for it. Your past kindnesses are starting to pay off. Don't let peer pressure prompt you to do something you'll later regret. Remember children are taking their cues from you.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22-Jan 20)  
**THIS** is an excellent week to sign a contract, enter into a partnership, get engaged, or recite wedding vows. Beware of jealousy rearing its ugly head in a romantic relationship. Giving your the benefit of the doubt will earn their everlasting loyalty. Shocking news could be a red herring.  
To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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## HARD

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- 1 Scribble (6)
- 2 Condemn strongly (8)
- 3 Large aeroplane (5,3)
- 4 Knock down (4)
- 5 Harsh (7)
- 6 Ratification (8)
- 7 Blossoming (9)
- 13 Custom (5)
- 14 Exultant (4-1-4)
- 16 Picadors (anag.) (8)
- 18 Bodily exertion (8)
- 19 Urgency (8)
- 20 To an excessive level (3-4)
- 22 Hang (6)
- 25 Western US state (4)

## HARD

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ACROSS: 8 Scheduled 9 Repel 10  
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Casserole. DOWN: 1 Scrawl 2 Denounce  
3 Jumbo jet 4 Fell 5 Drastic 6 Approval  
7 Flowering 13 Habit 14 Cock-a-hoop  
16 Sporadic 18 Exercise 19 Pressure  
20 Sky-high 22 Dangle 25 Utah.



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# yourmedwaycinema



## ON GENERAL RELEASE

### THE RUINS (15)



Based on the best-seller by Scott B Smith, The Ruins follows a group of friends who become entangled in a brutal struggle for survival after visiting an archaeological dig in the Mexican jungle – where they discover something deadly living among the ruins.

### TEETH (18)



High-school student Dawn (Jess Weixler) works hard at suppressing her budding sexuality by being the most active member of the local chastity group. Her task is made more difficult by her beauty and her bad-boy stepbrother's provocative behaviour. Previously a stranger to her own body, innocent Dawn makes a shocking discovery about herself.

### ADULTHOOD (15)



Powerful, disturbing and moving in equal measure, 2005's acclaimed Adulthood took us deep into London's unseen underbelly – now it's time to grow up. After Sam Peel is released from jail for killing Trife, he finds difficulty adjusting to life on the outside. He is forced to confront the people he hurt.

# This field of dreams

BY KATE WHITING

BRIAN Cox is resting on a bright red sofa, recalling the toughest day of filming on his latest movie The Escapist.

The veteran actor joined Joseph Fiennes, Damien Lewis and Dominic Cooper in Dublin on a tight 26-day shoot to make the prison break thriller – and the whole cast had to pull together.

"There's a scene where they come to a wall and break through it and build a tunnel. The day we were doing it, we had lost a morning due to a change in the schedule and I thought, 'We're not going to do this, it's ridiculous,'" he admits.

"But we worked really fast and the sense of commitment was incredibly moving. I suddenly thought, 'Wow, we know what we're up against', in terms of the characters in the story – and to get the film made. That was a fantastic day."

Cast bonding aside, it's fair to say the film wouldn't have been made at all had it not been for Cox's involvement. In fact, it was written with him in mind.

The 62-year-old star of the Bourne films had met first-time director Rupert Wyatt when they worked together for three days on a short film called Get The Picture.

Cox had just completed filming on Troy and was suffering from flu when he met up with Wyatt for the evening and gave him an offer he couldn't refuse – to write a strong central character he could play in a feature film.

"We'd had a lot of wine that evening and I'm very keen on encouraging new talent, because if you take care of them they'll take care of you. As I get older, it's quite important to be taken care of," he explains, with a chuckle.

The Escapist centres around Frank Perry (Cox), a prisoner resigned to spending the rest of his days inside for a crime he committed long ago.

But when Frank receives a letter from his estranged daughter, saying she is critically ill after an overdose, he decides to escape so he can see her again.

However, he can't do so without help, so he gathers together a motley crew of other con-



**NEW TALENT:** Brian Cox is keeping the torch burning by encouraging writers and attracting audiences to watch films

victs for the job – each with their own special skills.

"It's the classic 'men in dire straits' situation," says Brian, in his soft Scottish brogue.

"It's a wonderful movie because everybody has a pride in what they do and a real gift and that's what's so good about taking the prison escape genre on."

Dundee-born Cox made his name on the stage as a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company. He married his second wife, German actress Nicole Ansari-Cox, in 2002 and the couple have two young sons.

He also has two children, including actor son Alan Cox, from his 18-year marriage to Caroline Burt.

Like his character Frank, who has seen a lot of things change in the prison system over the years, Cox says it is much harder these days to get a film made and, more importantly, seen.

"The toughest part is not making of the film, it's how do you get your audience?" he says.

"This idea of 'I will build it and they will come', this field of dreams. That's exactly what it is, a field of dreams.

"The reality is something else. It's an ongoing struggle to keep the torch burning."

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# yourmedwaygetaways



## On top of the world

"WATCH out," cried our fresh-faced guide, Yarab. Our mini-van screeched to a halt as the driver slammed on the breaks, thrusting us forward.

"It's okay. We missed her," Yarab said with a note of relief in his voice.

Could it have been a pedestrian? Hardly likely. At 4,000m and surrounded by clouds, we were on one of the highest road passes in the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan. In fact, our vehicle had come to a shuddering stop to avoid a chicken crossing the road.

It is against the dominant religion in Bhutan, Drukpa or Tibetan Buddhism, to harm any living being, even a fly... or a chicken come to that. It's a way of life that makes for a gentle race of warm-hearted and deeply spiritual people in the spectacular mountain kingdom.

There are not enough superlatives in the dictionary to describe Bhutan. Cliches like 'heaven on earth' ring true here.

Incredible scenery, a fascinating heritage, a rich culture of Buddhism and selfless people make a trip 'an experience like no other', 'never to be forgotten' and 'mesmerising'.

Often referred to as 'the last Shangri-La' it is indeed a mystical place, sandwiched between India and China, and neighbours Tibet and Nepal.

Rich, deep, green valleys make up the west, sub-tropical jungles the south, while the snow-covered peaks of the Himalaya are to the north.

Almost completely cut off for centuries,

■ BY VICTORIA MITCHELL

Bhutan, which has population of around 700,000, only began to open up to outsiders in the 1970s.

You won't find many backpackers though, as visitors have to pay a government tax of 200 US dollars per day for the privilege of being in the country.

Tourism is still restricted and has to be arranged through a travel agent, but more and more people are being allowed in.

Arriving into Bhutan itself is an adventure. The only airport, in Paro, about 30 miles from the capital Thimphu, lies deep in one of the picturesque valleys.

This makes for a nerve-wracking landing as you descend with what seems like inches to spare. But in its 24 years of operation, the national airline has never had any mishaps.

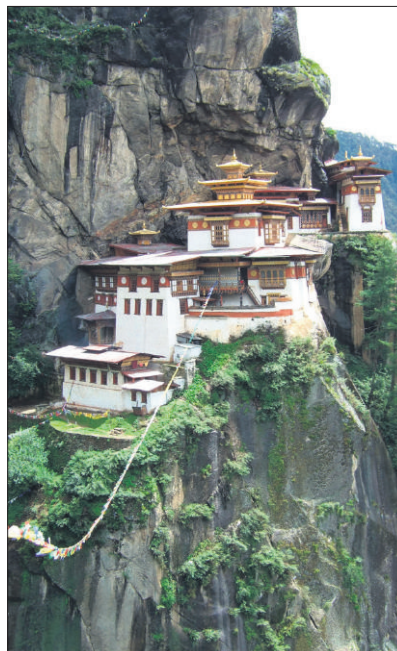
Hotels here are limited in number but one which stands out is the luxurious Uma Paro, a boutique hotel built around a traditional, white-washed stone house.

Everything about the hotel – from its minimalist lobby to the beautiful one-bedroom villas – spells understated luxury and there's a strong emphasis on relaxation.

Paro valley offers so much for visitors and no visit would be complete without a trek to the Taktsang, the country's most famous monastery.

Also known as Tiger's Nest, the pretty, white-washed monastery hangs on a cliff at 900 metres above the floor of the valley.

One of the most popular routes into the country is the 50-minute Druk Air flight via



**SPECTACULAR:** The monastery at Taktsang – the Tiger's Nest

Calcutta and our party spent two nights at the five-star Sonar Hotel in Calcutta, which belongs to the Sheraton hotel group, en route.

Paro and Calcutta could not be further removed, despite being neighbours. Calcutta is a frenetic and crowded city buzzing with busy streets, the perfect antidote is a few days in Paro – where you'll feel on top of the world.

### FACT FILE: BHUTAN

Time difference	UK + 5hour
Capital	Thimphu
Population	672,425
Currency	Ngultrum (89 to £1 approx)
Religion	Buddhism
Climate	Sub-tropical
Language	Dzongkha

### Holiday details

Victoria Mitchell travelled via Calcutta to Bhutan with Greaves Travel, which specialises in tailor-made tours to the subcontinent. Its nine-day package, including five-night Himalayan Discovery package in Bhutan with full-board accommodation at Uma Paro starts at £2,690 (two sharing). Package also includes BA and Druk Air flights, two nights at ITC Sonar Hotel in Calcutta, transfers and sightseeing with air-conditioned cars in Calcutta and in Bhutan, with English-speaking local guides and portage at airports. Regional departures connecting with Heathrow start around £80 return. Greaves Travel reservations: 0207 4879111 or [www.greavesindia.com](http://www.greavesindia.com).



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### EXCLUSIVE KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

## Open Golf at Royal Birkdale

The Open returns to Royal Birkdale ten years on from Mark O'Meara's victory and the emergence of a young amateur, now the top golfer in Europe, Justin Rose.

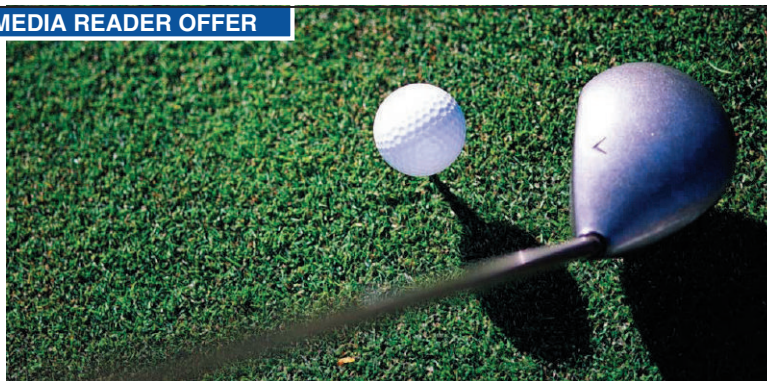
Golf's best known names including last year's victor Pádraig Harrington\* will descend on Royal Birkdale, one of Britain's finest golf clubs. Having previously hosted two Ryder Cups, the Walker and Curtis Cups, the Women's British Open and, on eight occasions, the Open, Royal Birkdale is the perfect setting for the Open this summer.

The Open is golf's oldest tournament and was first held at Prestwick Golf Club in 1860 when just eight players played three rounds over a 12 hole course. Today the Championship is a top feature in the golfing calendar, attracting all the top world players competing for millions of pounds of prize money.

#### The Price includes:

- Two nights stay at a 3 or 4 star North West hotel
- Dinner & full English breakfast inclusive from dinner on Friday evening to breakfast on Sunday morning
- Two days admission to The Open including the final day's play
- Coach transfers from the hotel to and from the course and return

\*Omega cannot be held responsible for the non-show of golfers. Prices based on two people sharing a twin/double room, single supplement applies. Operated by Omega Holidays plc ABTA V4782



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**WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT**  
**SOUNDING GOOD?**  
Bubbly, outgoing female, 21, blonde, medium build, loves country music, fun nights out, playing golf etc, WLTW guy, 21-27, to share fun times with her. Box 891390

**NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK?**  
Lovely female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy, for fun, friendship and more. Box 420555

**YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL**  
27yr old, mother of 1, enjoys cooking, loves music and going to the pub. Looking for a man who has a giggle with. Box 891393

**TWO LIPS FROM AMSTERDAM!**  
I'm a tall, blonde Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festive! Looking for a lovely man with GSOH, for something special. Box 893230

**ANOTHER GLASS?**  
28yr old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'10, slim, attractive, GSOH, seeks nice gentleman for companionship and happy times. Box 440218

**I'LL BE SEEING YOU**  
I'm a social, caring and sensual woman, 33, who enjoys having fun, conversation, arts, music and eating out, seeking a like-minded, upbeat man. Box 892177

**JAZZ FUSION**  
Single girl, hardworking, kind and caring, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, looking to meet similar for let's see how it goes. Box 901072

**FUN-LOVING**  
Attractive female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

**IN THE COUNTRY**  
Are you the one? I'm 33, single, 5ft2, pure country lass, farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892265

**TAKE ME OUT**  
Single Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meet and more with. Box 439941

**ANIMAL MAGIC!**  
Single, kind, caring animal lover, 34, from Kent, likes cooking, cinema, theatre, most music, seeks non-smoking male, 34-38, for LTR. Box 440782

**R U THE 1?**  
Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 433107

**HERE TO BE YOURS**  
Single Mum, 35, own place, loves animals, nights in, very down-to-earth, seeking caring male, looks unimportant, fun-loving personality essential. Box 440671

**DON'T PASS ME BY**  
Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983

**YOUNG-AT-HEART**  
Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 891893

**READ ME!**  
Lovely single Mum, 38, 5ft4, blonde, slim, loves socialising, good fun and chatty, WLTW similar male for fun and laughter, maybe leading to LTR. Box 372699

**SANDY SEEKS DANNY**  
Slim, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out, GSOH, seeks trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100

**ALL THIS AND MORE**  
Attractive female, 43, slim-medium build, 5ft5, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439392

**ON A PLATE**  
Caring, honest 48yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead, likes to read, theatre, walking, WLTW male for fun and friendship. Box 895928

**DON'T PASS ME BY**  
Friendly, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441

**HAPPY GO LUCKY**  
Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTW similar guy. Box 88548

**BOWL A MAIDSTONE OVER!**  
Kind, loving female, 44, blonde, 5'4", medium-curvy build, likes reading, music, countryside walks, seeks similar, adventurous male for happy times together. Kent. Box 805846

**MAYBE YOU'RE THE ONE?**  
I'm a lovely, chocolate brown hair, blue eyes, 48, seeking human male (preferably) for nights out, socialising, clubbing, lots of laughs and fun. Box 437486

**LOVE CANNOT BE BOUGHT**  
Happy, fit, youthful 49yr old single mum, OHAC, very good sense of humour, loves all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895929

**HUNK SOUGHT**  
Mature, 48, blonde, medium build, likes 4x4s, the gym, quad-biking, a glass of wine, cinema, rugby/soccer/cricket, WLTW sincere young guy for friendship/companionship and who knows. Box 894117

**LIFE IS FOR LIVING!**  
Genuine, outgoing single mum, 48yr old, 5'10, enjoys swimming, the outdoors and travelling, WLTW male to travel and enjoy life with. Take the plunge! Box 891011

**BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER**  
Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and enjoy most things, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952

**ALL THAT I NEED**  
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833

**LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE**  
Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

**LOTS OF LOVE TO GIVE**  
Bubbly, voluptuous, very warm-hearted, tactile, fun-loving, 49, looking for that special someone to share cuddles, romantic evening in/out and possible relationship. Box 440879

**READ ALL ABOUT IT**  
Pettie, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTW NS man to share things with. Box 428682

**MOVING ON FROM FRIENDSHIP**  
Hi I'm 45, 5ft6, largeish build, blue eyes, non-smoker/driver, mother of two (daughter 10/soon 15), seeking male to share life with, walks, beaches and more. Canterbury. Box 440692

**LET'S SEE**  
Hi I'm 51yr old, 5'10, long dark hair, like cooking, going out, films, music, lots of interests! Seeking friendship, maybe something more later. Box 441193

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**ENTERTAIN ME**  
48yo female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, driving, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and fun. Box 438654

**HERE GO WE**  
Young female, 50, 5ft5, slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, loves animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship & more. Box 439607

**JUST IMAGINE**  
Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

**LONELINESS NO MORE!**  
Maxine, 51, an Arles, very loving, romantic, happy grown-up children, loves walks, socialising, seeking similar aged male who wants to stop being alone! Box 440774

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**STARTING OVER**  
Recently separated man, 41, enjoys meals out, socialising, driving, cinema, seeking a similar active lady for friendship maybe romance. Box 433334

**FUN FUN FUN**  
47yr old, jester, loves animals and having lots of laughs, seeks a female of similar character for fun-loving relationship. Box 438023

**LOVING RELATIONSHIP**  
Loving guy, in Ashford, I'm 43 and have dark hair/blue eyes, medium build. I enjoy theatre, holidays, cinema, beach walks, music, bowling. Box 437557

**STROLLS ALONG THE BEACH**  
Hi Richard, 43, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, medium build, very loving, like holidays, cinema, music, restaurants, beaches; seeking female 34-47 for love & relationship. Box 443030

**CALL ME**  
Genuine male, 43, 6ft4, slim, enjoys bowling, cinema, going to the pub and gardening. WLTW a similar lady for a long term relationship. Box 441595

**HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?**  
Happy girl, 43, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, looking for a woman for relationship 34-55, enjoying holidays, music, cinema, music, the countryside and maybe love. Box 441554

**BIG DEAL IN DEAL**  
Warm, tactile male, 42, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 368987

**LET IT BE**  
Honest, tactile, romantic male 42, 5'10", green eyes, varied interests, the gym, winning, dining out, seeks female/singie woman, 35-45, for friendship and more. Box 390698

**LOOKING FOR LOVE**  
Genuine, caring male, 43, 6ft, N/S, own home/car, varied interest, WLTW caring female, 35-45, for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 372087

**ALWAYS YOURS**  
Tall, football lover, enjoys films, walking, socialising, WLTW a blonde female with blue eyes for a committed long term relationship. Box 897436

**NEAT AND TIDY**  
Confident, loyal, laidback, divorced 6ft male, 45, slim, professional, WLTW similar female, 35-45, for a loving relationship. Box 441611

**HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE**  
Slim, 48yr old male, 5'8, 5ft7, looking to meet black/Asian lady, 30-48, for loving, caring relationship. I enjoy swimming, singing, cosy nights in! Romney Marsh. Box 441461

**LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU**  
47yr old male, 6ft, brown hair, hazel eyes, medium build, active, likes football, clubs, pubs, cosy nights in, seeks a similar, WLTW trustworthy female. Box 437263

**LIVELY UP YOURSELF**  
Sincere, kind-hearted, passionate, black male, 46, 6ft1, lives, meals out, socialising, WLTW like-minded, fun-loving female for great times together. Box 397808

**IN YOUR EYES**  
Blond, blue-eyed male, 46, 5ft8, enjoys socialising, cinema, life alone in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship and more. Box 421664

**RELAX, I SAY!**  
Professional businessman, 46, divorced, tall, fit, easygoing, romantic, tactile, enjoys good food and wine, holidays, sport, outdoor life, relaxing and generally having fun! Tunbridge Wells/Brighton. Box 895345

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**LOTS OF SMILES**  
Warm, sincere, N/S, eligible, stimulating, male, 46, well groomed, OHAC, 5'10", slim/medium, settled but playful, seeks similar lady to share LTR and smiles. Box 924085

**MY HEART WILL GO ON**  
Genuine, young-at-heart man, 50, likes eating out, cinema, music, country, driving, etc. Box 892922

**LOVE A GIGGLE**  
Athletic male, 51, salt 'n' pepper hair, enjoys sports and riding my motorbike, WLTW young, fun loving lady to share my social life with. Box 441604

**STILL SEARCHING**  
Attractive, slim male, 51, 5ft7, enjoys reading books, poetry, art, theatre, keeping fit and Asian food, WLTW slim, interesting conversationalists for an active life together. Box 440620

**ROMANTIC AT HEART**  
Fun to be with male, 51, medium build, greyish hair, like going out, staying in, films, beach walks, WLTW like-minded, caring lady. Box 441537

**THIS IS MY FIRST TIME, BE GENTLE**  
Hi I'm Pete, 52, 5'7", easygoing, looking for friendship and maybe more in a woman 30-50, someone to talk to and keep me company. Box 435580

**A GLASS OR TWO**  
Shy, tall guy, separated, 53yr old, likes a glass of red wine, travelling, sharing a bottle of nice wine, seeking female for companionship. Pevensy. Box 441437

**NICE TIME WITH A NICE GUY?**  
Confident, sociable guy, 54, 5ft6, stocky, strong, fit, I work in antiques and have GSOH. I'm looking for a nice woman, 42-55, for friendship and more. Box 390698

**TALKING THE NIGHT AWAY**  
Semi-retired ex-businessman, 59, 6ft, dark complexion, salt/pepper hair, likes a glass of red wine, travelling, normal things! Separated and seeking female to share fun. Box 890805

**WHY NOT CHECK ME OUT?**  
Widower, 63, seeking that special lady to share good times with, for companionship. I'm a keen gardener, fit and still hard working. Box 440066

**ON MY WAY TO HELL**  
Hi I'm 65, divorced, 6ft, brown hair, nice-looking! Healthy, active, professional, keen sportsman (in my day), WLTW gentle, nice, attractive lady for a share companionship. Box 439791

**WHY DON'T WE HAVE A CHAT?**  
Nice, romantic male, 64, semi-retired, N/S, GSOH, enjoys dancing, beach walks, cuddles. WLTW female, 55-65, for friendship, hopefully relationship. Box 188254

**Men seeking men**  
**LOOKING FOR FRIENDS, MAYBE A SOULMATE?**  
Genuine open-minded male, 36, 5ft5, brown hair/blue eyes, slim, likes music, photography, socialising, etc. Looking for mates to socialise with and hopefully someone special. Box 441528

**JOINED IN LOVE?**  
Good, down-to-earth guy, 46, green eyes, dark hair, slim, enjoys holidays, music, pubs, eating in/out, looking for a mate 25-50 for companionship. Box 441106

**MAN 2 MAN**  
Mature, bi guy, 50, 6ft, large build, likes nights in, looking for great, 60+, for regular meets in Sussex, hopefully leading to LTR. Box 897705

**HOW DOES THIS GRAB YOU?**  
Dn, 58, easygoing, friendly, medium build, in good shape, enjoy quiet nights in, DVDs, videos, photography, WLTW easygoing like-minded male for fun, friendship and more. Box 440544

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**SOMEONE SPECIAL...**  
Single Mum, 38, dark hair/blue eyes, medium build, enjoys pubs, cinemas, eating in/out, DVDs, concerts, WLTW honest, reliable male with GSOH to make me smile. Box 441185

**MUSIC TO OUR EARS**  
Outgoing female, 31, tall, skinny, like going out, eating out, socialising, walks, looking for a funny, blond gentleman with good looks for lasting companionship. Maidstone. Box 441023

**PILLION DOLLAR BABE!**  
Slim lady, 31, 5ft8, shoulder-length dark hair, hazel eyes, loves having fun and meeting new people, enjoys super-bikes, music, pubs, socialising with friends, keeping fit. Box 433131

**WILD GIRL ON OFFER**  
Fun-loving, attractive female, 31, 5ft10, brown hair/eyes, size 8-10, GSOH, passionate about music, bikes and animals, seeking a caring, considerate male, who's into bikes. Box 433134

**ALL IN GOOD TIME**  
Tall, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778

**ARE YOU MR RIGHT?**  
Single Mum, 30, 5ft2, short brown hair, petite, loves pubs, clubs, eating out, nights in, seeking Mr Right for friendship, maybe more. Box 437995

**CUDDLY**  
32yr old woman, 5ft8, brown hair, curly figure. I enjoy having fun and a laugh and WLTW nice, kind gent. Box 439402

**EQUESTRIAN OF SPORT!**  
Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

**CANTERBURY TALE**  
Single mum of 2, 32, WLTW someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670

**MADE FOR EACH OTHER?**  
Mum of three,





## PROPERTY NEWS

### Collapsing chains creating problem

IN a volatile property market, one of the major things that sellers have to be wary of is getting into a long chain.

Instability means transactions are more likely to go wrong – so in a chain all the participants would be affected.

The Fall Through Index produced by Quickmovenow, a company which buys homes from sellers wanting a quick sale, indicates the risk of a sale falling through has doubled since 2006 and stands at about 50 per cent.

Spencer Botchin, of Kinleigh Folkard and Hayward estate agency, said: "Collapsing chains are increasingly common.

"In particular, this is happening with 'down valuations' after mortgage surveys [where cautious surveyors value the property at a lower price, reducing the amount that buyers can borrow and resulting in them having to pull out], or simply when buyers have a change of heart."

One possible solution is for any person in the chain who has a cash shortfall to be covered by others, either in the form of a loan or grant.

Another possibility is to have standbys in the chain – people who may not have been ready to sell when it started but may be later in the year.

### Swingles sustain designer market

THE Sex and the City-style singles market for designer properties is still resilient, with people who live alone looking to buy despite the continuing gloom which surrounds home values.

Whether male or female, they want somewhere which is secure as well as close to where there is nightlife and action such as bars and restaurants.

They also want new homes to be easy to commute from – and they do want ultra-cool, contemporary homes with all the hi-tech features.

Impressing guests is high on the list, so all factors in choosing a home are taken into account.

And they are making a positive impact on the market as so many are looking to buy at the top end, which stimulates demand and helps to fight off recession.

"In high-end developments the proportion of single buyers is around 20 per cent, split equally between men and women, with a large chunk of that made up of divorced people," said Ed Lewis, head of Savills New Homes.

# Always a silver lining for some investors

## And fixed-rate lending goes up despite trend

■ BY NICK AMES

A SURVEY by Abbey has revealed that some people quite like the idea of falling house prices as it could be something that helps them when it comes to investment.

The findings stated 3.9 million homeowners were happy to wait to see how the market panned out.

But 1.2 million said recent dips in price were an opportunity to move up the housing ladder with bargains coming on to the market.

In addition, 827,000 believe the best move for them is to sell up, rent for a time while prices continue to fall, then buy again at a cheaper cost, pocketing the profit.

However, while these findings seem to show that, even in a market downturn, many good investment opportunities arise, there may be good news of stability on the horizon.

Market analysts have seen a slight increase in value alongside other indications that confidence in the industry is returning.

### Anomaly

Department for Communities and Local Government figures for house prices in April, based on mortgage completions, showed a 0.7 per cent rise in prices.

Set against recent polls indicating price falls, that might be seen as just an anomaly, but figures for the month from the Council of Mortgage Lenders have also indicated a pick-up in lending.

The figures for the month showed an eight per cent increase in volume since March, rising from £24.1 billion to £26.1 billion.

While this was still five per cent lower than a year earlier, that compares favourably with the year-on-year figures in March, which were down 24 per cent from 2007.

Another feature of the trend was that fixed-rate lending has gone up. This accounted for 59 per cent of all deals, compared with 54 per cent in March.

CML director general Michael Coogan said: "There has been a resurgence of fixed-rate lending as borrowers are seeking certainty.

"This trend is likely to continue as the anticipation of future Bank base rate cuts has diminished."



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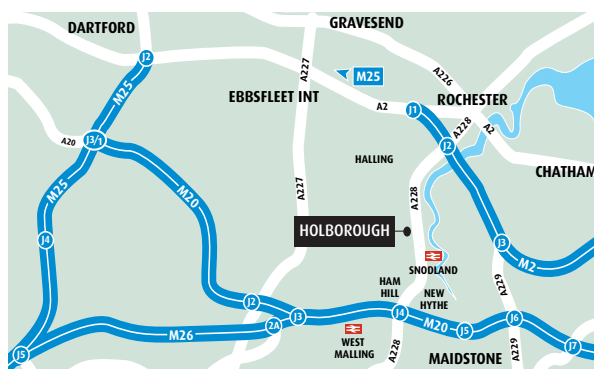
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## MOTORS NEWS



### Workshop gives ladies tips on driving safely

VAUXHALL dealership FG Barnes of Maidstone has made local women more aware of how to protect themselves against the dangers they could face on the road.

The site at Sutton Road, Parkwood, held a 'Women in the Driving Seat' workshop evening in response to media coverage about the risks to women road users.

There was practical advice on mechanics, roadside get-you-home tips, defensive driving and how to ward off a possible 'road rage' attacker (pictured).



### Showroom combining its used and new cars

INVICTA Motors has consolidated its Canterbury operations by moving used car sales to the group's main site at 59/61 Sturry Road, Canterbury.

Used car sales manager John Boorman explained that Esso's plans to re-develop the old used car site's neighbouring Lakeside petrol forecourt, suggested the timing.

Used car buyers can now view stock alongside new cars and the service and parts departments. Invicta's sounds and security arm, Canterbury Car Radio, is also now based within the showrooms.



### Your extreme pictures could win you a X-Trail

BAILEYS Nissan is seeking 'adrenaline junkies' in Canterbury.

As part of the Nissan Sports Adventure campaign, the dealership wants adventure-lovers to submit action pictures of themselves perhaps 'catching air' on a skateboard, in action on skis or stunt-riding a mountain bike.

The winning adventurer will have a weekend's use of a Nissan 4x4 like the X-Trail (pictured).

Baileys' dealer principal Brian Smith said: "We want to see just how daring our town is."



**ECO-FRIENDLY:** Skoda has come up trumps with its new ultra-green Fabia Greenline with an average 70mpg and emissions low enough to qualify for road tax band-B

# Skoda's Fabia Greenline travel saves – at a price

HOW much do you want to slash your motoring costs and help save the planet?

Enough to buy Skoda's ultra-green and appropriately named Fabia Greenline diesel supermini?

From £11,495 for the hatchback version to £12,145 for the estate, tested and pictured here, you could average around 70mpg and cut your emissions to just 109g/km of CO<sub>2</sub> – low enough to qualify for road tax band-B (£35/year).

And you won't pay much extra for this green paragon; a conventional Fabia hatchback with the same engine and similar spec costs around £200 less – cash you recover quickly via the Greenline's fuel savings.

Skoda claims the Greenline estate version is actually the greenest, leanest and most competitively priced in its class.

The Czech car maker has achieved this miserliness by fitting further aerodynamic panels beneath the chassis, replacing the spare tyre with a puncture repair kit and raising the front bumper by 35mm.

But there is a 'but' and one we are all going to have to face sooner or later as we strive for

## ROAD TEST SKODA FABIA

■ BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

or are forced towards greener motoring, for the Greenline is not exactly a treat to drive.

Sure the Fabia range generally grips, handles and rides better than many in the supermini segment, but the Greenline's 80bhp 1.4-litre engine is both a three-cylinder and a diesel, a double-disadvantage on the refinement front.

The only time the racket fades is during motorway cruising, when you also have the satisfaction of knowing that a tall fifth gear is allowing the car to sip fuel, making the Greenline ideal for a regular and increasingly expensive daily commute.

Skoda has also made the latest Fabia a brighter place to be; endless dark trimming of the cabin in the old car has been replaced with a two-tone scheme.

As before, the quality of the materials is robust while the dashboard is well-organised, with decent stowage.

Space front and back is generous for this class and the estate works well, delivering 480 litres of boot space or 1,460 of load space with seats folded, compared with 300/1,168 for the hatch.

• Email [steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk)



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# FOUR YEARS 0% APR



Feel the breeze

Astra SXi

**VAUXHALL**

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Kent

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Astra SXi 1.4i 16v Sport Hatch: urban 35.3 (8), extra-urban 56.5 (5), combined 46.3 (6.1). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 146 g/km; Astra TwinTop Design 1.8i 16v Roadster: urban 27.4 (10.3), extra-urban 45.6 (6.2), combined 36.7 (7.7). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 185 g/km; Meriva Breeze Plus 1.6i 16v 5dr MPV: urban 31.7 (8.9), extra-urban 52.3 (5.4), combined 42.2 (6.7). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 159 g/km; Zafira Breeze Plus 1.6i 16v 5dr MPV: urban 30.1 (9.4), extra-urban 47.9 (5.9), combined 39.2 (7.2). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 172 g/km.**

Models shown may have optional extras available at an extra cost. 4 Years 0% Finance available on selected Astra, Astra TwinTop, Tigra, Meriva, Zafira and Vectra models. Minimum deposit of 30% required. Finance by GMAC UK plc subject to status. Applicants must be 18 or over. Available at participating retailers only. Offers apply to eligible new vehicles ordered or registered between 02.04.08 and 01.07.08, subject to availability, and are available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only. (Vaux44360)



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& clutch

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day exchange

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vehicle search

**Pomphreys**  
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YEAR	REG	MODEL	ENGINE	DOORS	COLOUR	MILEAGE	£
<b>CORSA</b>							
2001	Y*	Corsa Comfort E/T	12	5	Aruba blue	62,300	3,295
2002	02*	Corsa Comfort Auto	14	5	Petrol blue	39,000	4,495
2005	05	Corsa Sxi	12	3	Silver lightening	24,000	5,695
2007	57	New Corsa Club A/c	12	3	Star silver	5,950	7,995
2007	07	New Corsa Club	12	3	Ultra blue	6,080	7,695
2007	07	New Corsa Club	14	5	Star silver	8,000	7,995
2007	07	New Corsa Club	12	3	Air blue	5,800	7,695
2007	57	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	17D	5	Star silver	7,325	10,995
<b>SIGNUM</b>							
2003	03*	Signum Elegance	2.2	5	Oyster	50,375	5,995
2003	53	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	36,500	6,350
2004	04	Signum Elite Auto	2.2	5	Black sapphire	22,000	7,995
2004	04	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Silver	34,850	7,295
2007	57	Signum CDTi Exclusiv Nav 19D	5	5	Star silver	9,950	14,995
<b>MERIVA</b>							
2004	04	Meriva Life E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	27,600	5,495
2007	57	Meriva VXR	1.6	5	Arden blue	2,680	12,495
<b>ASTRA</b>							
2001	Y*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Polar sea blue	7,6850	2,995
2003	53	Astra Elegance Estate	2.2	5	Star silver	42,000	4,995
2005	05	New Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Ultra blue	42,000	7,995
2005	05	Astra Design Est	1.6	5	Star silver	6,675	7,995
2005	05	Astra Exclusiv Convertible	1.8	2	Silver lightening	32,050	8,995
2007	57	New Astra Club Estate CDTi 13D	5	5	Panacotta	7,850	11,995
2007	57	New Astra Club	1.6	5	Peacock	7,725	9,495
2007	57	New Astra Sxi CDTi (150ps) 19D	5	5	Moonland	5,250	13,995
2007	57	New Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Petrol blue	5,285	9,995
<b>ZAFIRA</b>							
2005	55	New Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Flame red	31,650	8,495
<b>VECTRA</b>							
2001	Y*	Vectra Cdi Auto	2.2	5	Satin red	64,000	2,995
2005	05	Vectra Sri	2.2	5	Star silver	30,550	7,850
2007	07	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Star silver	12,650	9,995
2007	57	Vectra Exclusiv + pack	1.8	5	Pomegranate red	4,675	9,995
<b>OTHER VAUXHALL MODELS</b>							
2007	57	VXR8 Sat Nav	6.0	4	Phantom Black	6,775	32,995
<b>COMMERCIALS</b>							
2007	07	Vivaro SWB	1.9 D		White	9,400	£10,150+VAT
2006	56	Movano	2.5 CDTi LWB		Silver	3,000	£13,995+VAT
2007	57	Combo	1.3D CDTi		White		Delivery £7,995+VAT
2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		White		Delivery £10,995+VAT
2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		White		Delivery £13,250+VAT
2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Silver		Delivery £12,995+VAT
2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Silver		Delivery £12,995+VAT
2008	08	Vivaro	1.9D		White		Delivery £11,495+VAT
2007	57	Astravan	1.9 CDTi		Star silver	2,500	£9,995 NO vat
2007	57	Astravan	1.7D		White	5,445	£8,650+VAT
2003	03*	Combo	1.7D Ti		White	68,500	£3,695+VAT
2007	57	Combo	1.3D CDTi		White	13,475	£7,350+VAT
2007	57	Combo	1.3 CDTi		White	3,400	£7,650+VAT
2007	07	Combo	1.3CDTi		White	6,600	£6,995+VAT
2007	07	Combo	1.3D Crew van		White	8,700	£8,495+VAT
2005	55*	Vivaro	1.9D		Red	57,500	£10,250+VAT
2007	57	Vivaro	1.9 CDTi		White	12,100	£10,295+VAT
2007	57	Vivaro	2		Silver	4,275	£14,995+VAT
2007	57	Movano	2.0CDTi		White	10,300	£12,995+VAT
<b>DUE SOON</b>							
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	TBA	10,295
2007	57	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black	4,500	8,695
05	05	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Silver	32,000	5,595
2005	55	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Silver lightening	20,000	5,695
2007	56	New Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Black sapphire	19,000	8,395
2008	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,295
2005	05	Zafira Life	1.6	5	Silver lightening	20,000	6,695

\*Non Network Q Vehicle

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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### FAMILY CARS

THIS sector used to dominate the UK car market, but sales have been eroded by new categories such as the 4x4 sports utility vehicle (SUV) and MPV or 'people carrier' and encroachment by upmarket compact executive models like the BMW 3-Series, which now outsells the former UK market leader – the Ford Mondeo. Nevertheless, many second-hand car buyers still like the idea of a spacious, comfortable and more conventional family runabout and preferably one with a hatchback, so here are three popular sellers based on ability and value.

#### FORD MONDEO



ONCE the UK's favourite car, its fall from favour reflects changing tastes rather than the Mondeo's ability. The car's greatest weakness is the bonnet badge – something the latest generation car tries to overcome with Germanic quality and detail. The previous car was well-built, superb to drive and incredibly spacious. Apart from the best-selling hatchback there is a saloon and one of the roomiest estates in the sector, plus a massive range of engines.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### VAUXHALL VECTRA



MUCH of that said about the Mondeo applies to its arch-rival, the Vectra. Instead of slugging it out toe-to-toe, these two old prize-fighters are now back-to-back facing threats from other directions. The Vectra matches the Mondeo in most areas, but the Vectra is chunkier and the interior so well built that it almost intimidates. The choice of bodies echoes the Mondeo and the estate is the best load carrier in this sector thanks to a longer wheelbase.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### NISSAN PRIMERA



NISSAN'S final Primera was launched in 2002 and could not contrast more with its staid predecessors. The teardrop lines made it one of the most distinctive cars in this class, perhaps too much so for some – hastening its demise – but it offers great driving pleasure, terrific value and reliability, plus good Renault-sourced turbodiesels for endurance and economy. The range was latterly streamlined to concentrate on the hatchback and the spacious and rather more elegant estate.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

REG	MODEL / ENGINE	MILEAGE	CLOUR	COST NEW	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU
<b>EX-DEMONSTRATION FABIA</b>						
57	FABIA 1.1 12V 70BHP SDR HATCH	5439	STORM BLUE	£9,920.00	£2,930.00	£6,990.00
57	FABIA 2.1 4 TDI 80BHP SDR HATCH	TBA	SATIN GREY	£11,640.00	£2,150.00	£9,490.00
57	FABIA 3.1 9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	5036	SATIN GREY	£13,475.00	£3,485.00	£9,990.00
08	FABIA 2.1 4 16V 85BHP SDR ESTATE	TBA	CAPPUCINO BEIGE	£11,405.00	£1,415.00	£9,990.00
57	FABIA 3.1 9 TDI 105BHP SDR ESTATE	TBA	SATIN GREY	£14,265.00	£2,275.00	£11,990.00
<b>PRE-REGISTERED FABIA **DELIVERY MILES ONLY**</b>						
08	FABIA 2.1 12V 70BHP SDR HATCH	0	ANTHRACITE GREY	£10,780.00	£1,500.00	£9,280.00
08	FABIA 2.1 4 TDI 80BHP SDR HATCH	0	ANTHRACITE GREY	£11,655.00	£1,500.00	£10,155.00
<b>QUALITY USED FABIA*</b>						
56	FABIA CLASSIC 1.2 12V 64BHP SDR HATCH	5756	FLAMENCO RED			£6,990.00
06	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.2 12V 64BHP SDR HATCH	10621	STONE GREY			£6,990.00
05	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.4 16V 100BHP SDR HATCH	21620	DIAMOND SILVER			£6,490.00
07	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.4 16V AUTO 75BHP SDR HATCH	6456	SATIN GREY			£8,990.00
05	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 100BHP SDR HATCH	22344	DIAMOND SILVER			£7,690.00
03	FABIA ELEGANCE 2.0 MPI 115BHP SDR HATCH	14864	DIAMOND SILVER			£5,990.00
04	FABIA COMFORT 1.2 12V 68BHP SDR ESTATE	10274	CORRIDA RED			£6,290.00
02	FABIA COMFORT 1.9 TDI 100BHP SDR ESTATE	55382	STONE GREY			£4,490.00
55	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.4 16V 100BHP SDR ESTATE	25087	FLAMENCO RED			£6,790.00
55	FABIA BOHEMIA 1.4 16V 75BHP SDR ESTATE	17466	SAHARA BEIGE			£6,990.00
55	FABIA BOHEMIA 1.4 TDI 80BHP SDR ESTATE	30821	SAHARA BEIGE			£6,790.00
56	FABIA BOHEMIA 1.4 TDI 80BHP SDR ESTATE	5318	DIAMOND SILVER			£9,290.00
<b>EX-DEMONSTRATION OCTAVIA</b>						
57	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	TBA	BRIGHT SILVER	£15,125.00	£3,335.00	£11,790.00
57	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	TBA	SATIN GREY	£16,135.00	£1,545.00	£14,590.00
57	OCTAVIA L&K 2.0 FSI 150BHP AUTO SDR ESTATE	TBA	FLAMENCO RED	£20,380.00	£4,390.00	£15,990.00
<b>QUALITY USED OCTAVIA*</b>						
54	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.6 FSI 115BHP SDR HATCH	17194	DIAMOND SILVER			£7,490.00
07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	12828	CORRIDA RED			£10,990.00
07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	14006	BLACK MAGIC			£11,990.00
07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	13396	CAPPUCINO BEIGE			£11,490.00
04	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 90BHP SDR HATCH	71377	NATURE GREEN			£5,990.00
07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 2.0 TDI 140BHP SDR HATCH	9614	STORM BLUE			£11,990.00
05	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	33071	DYNAMIC BLUE			£9,290.00
07	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	12734	CAPPUCINO BEIGE			£11,490.00
07	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	12664	SATIN GREY			£11,490.00
07	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH	12281	HIGHLAND GREEN			£11,490.00
54	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 2.0 TDI 140BHP SDR HATCH	92398	STORM BLUE			£6,990.00
05	OCTAVIA VRS 1.8 20V TURBO 180BHP SDR HATCH	32082	DIAMOND SILVER			£8,990.00
55	OCTAVIA VRS 1.8 20V TURBO 180BHP SDR HATCH	38138	DIAMOND SILVER			£9,490.00
55	OCTAVIA BLUELINE 1.6 MPI 115BHP SDR HATCH	50513	ADMIRAL BLUE			£4,490.00
06	OCTAVIA L&K 2.0 TDI DSG 140BHP SDR HATCH	26018	SAHARA BEIGE			£12,790.00
<b>EX-DEMONSTRATION ROOMSTER</b>						
57	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 4 16V 85BHP SDR MPV	6134	CAPPUCINO BEIGE	£13,020.00	£3,530.00	£9,490.00
57	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 6 16V 105BHP SDR MPV	1943	FLAMENCO RED	£13,250.00	£3,760.00	£9,490.00
57	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 6 16V 105BHP SDR MPV	5774	OCEAN BLUE	£13,250.00	£3,760.00	£9,490.00
57	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 9 TDI 105BHP SDR MPV	TBA	CAPPUCINO BEIGE	£13,560.00	£3,570.00	£9,990.00
07	ROOMSTER LEVEL 3.1 4 16V 85BHP SDR MPV	3218	OCEAN BLUE	£13,430.00	£4,440.00	£8,990.00
<b>QUALITY USED ROOMSTER*</b>						
07	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 6 16V 105BHP SDR MPV	2544	CAPPUCINO BEIGE			£8,990.00
56	ROOMSTER LEVEL 2.1 4 TDI 80BHP SDR MPV	13818	STORM BLUE			£7,990.00
<b>EX-DEMONSTRATION SUPERB</b>						
07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.6 FSI 115BHP SDR ESTATE	6266	CAPPUCINO BEIGE	£14,460.00	£3,470.00	£10,990.00
<b>QUALITY USED SUPERB*</b>						
04	FABIA COMFORT 1.2 12V 64BHP SDR HATCH	34278	DIAMOND SILVER			£5,990.00
04	FABIA COMFORT 1.4 TDI 80BHP SDR HATCH	35313	DIAMOND SILVER			£5,490.00

\* ALL USED VEHICLES ARE HPI CHECKED, VALETED, SERVICED, MOT'D (WHERE APPLICABLE)  
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35 monthly payments of	<b>£109.00</b>
Deposit (min 20%)	<b>£3,284.38</b>
Retail cash price	<b>£11,495.00</b>
Amount of credit	<b>£8,210.62</b>
Optional final payment	<b>£5,400.00</b>
Total amount payable	<b>£12,684.38</b>
Acceptance fee†	<b>£125.00</b>
Option to purchase fee††	<b>£60.00</b>
Excess mileage	<b>5.64p per mile</b>
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Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW  
Tel: 01634 377 444  
Fax: 01634 363361  
E-mail: sherlodgew@btconnect.com  
www.sherlodgeargarage.skoda.co.uk

Model shown is new Fabia GreenLine 1.4 TDI PD 80bhp. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the new Fabia GreenLine: Urban 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 83.1 (3.4), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the new Fabia GreenLine 109g/km. Retail sales only. † Payable with first payment. †† Payable with optional final payment. Further charges may be payable if vehicle is returned. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18s for orders before 30th June 2008 (subject to availability). Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Skoda Finance, Freeport Skoda Finance.



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08 (08) CZ Turbo 1.5, 3Dr, Black  
06 (06) CZ2 1.3 Auto, 5DR, Silver  
06 (06) CZ2 1.3 Auto, 5DR, Grey  
08 (08) Lancer GS3 1.8 Auto, 4Dr, Blue  
08 (08) Lancer GS3 1.8, 4Dr, Silver  
08 (08) Lancer GS4 2.0 DID 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Lancer GSRSSST 300 LTR, 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Lancer GSR 360, 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Outlander 2.2 Diamond, Red  
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Animal, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Animal, Trux Top, Liner, Silver  
08 (08) L200 Diamond, 20" Alloys, Liner, Rear Parking, Sports Bar, Blue

## NEW VEHICLES

Lancer 2.0 Evolution XGS SST, Phantom Black  
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Elegance, Window Tints, Cool Silver  
Outlander 2.2 DI-DC Diamond, Thunder Blue  
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Life Club Cab, Polar White  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Alloys, Roll Top, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Alloys, Roll Top, Sports Bar, Tow bar, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Gas Lift Cover, Reef Blue  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Sports Top, Rear Parking, Cosmos Black  
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L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Colour Keyed, Cosmos Black

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L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Liner, Tow Bar, Parking, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Life Single Cab, Liner, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver  
Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Stone Grey  
Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Deep Blue Mica  
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Spicy Red  
Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black  
Shogun SWB 3.2 DI-DC Equippe Auto, Sterling Silver  
Shogun LWB 3.2 DI-DC Elegance Auto, Graphite Grey  
Lancer 2. DI-D GS4Dr, Manual, Stone Grey  
Lancer 2.0 Evolution X Gsl Lightening Blue  
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Cool Silver  
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Oriental Red  
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Amethyst Black  
Outlander 2.2 DI-D Diamond, Cool Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Liner, Bluetooth, Parking Sensor, Reef Blue  
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Work Double Cab, Titanium Grey  
L200 2.5 DI-D Raging Bull, Sports Bar, Aztec Red  
L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Liner, Gas Lift, Parking, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Graphite Grey  
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Work Single Cab, Cosmos Black  
Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Cool Silver  
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Atlantis Blue  
Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black  
Colt 3Dr 1.5 CZT Black Hawk, Mystic Black  
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Spicy Red  
Shogun SWB 3.2 DI-DC Equippe Auto, Sterling Silver  
Shogun LWB 3.2 DI-DC Equippe Auto, Sterling Silver  
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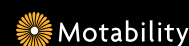
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\* Based on a 2 year Options agreement, subject to status, terms and conditions. Metallic paint an extra £350. These offers supersede all previous offers. Retail sales only. Licensed credit brokers. written quotations on request. Pictures for illustration purposes only. All vehicles must be registered by June 30th 2008.



#### CORSA From £4995

0404 Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 3dr Energy Sapphire Black 30000miles	£4,995.00
0404 Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 5dr Star Silver 28000miles	£5,495.00
0454 Corsa 1.4 16v Exclusive 3dr Flame Red Black Leather	£5,995.00
0707 Corsa 1.3Cdti Life 5dr Star Silver 6000miles	£8,995.00

#### NEW CORSA From £7995

0707 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 3dr Sapphire Black 11000miles	£7,995.00
0707 New Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 3dr Sapphire Black 12000miles	£9,650.00
0757 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 3dr with Air Con Choice of 2	£8,650.00
0757 New Corsa 1.4 16v Sxi 3dr With Air Con choice of colours	£8,850.00

#### NEW TIGRA From £9995

0606 New Tigra 1.8 16v Exclusive Sapphire Black Black Leather	£9,995.00
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#### ASTRA Cabriolet From £7850

0505 Astra 1.8 16v Exclusive Cabriolet Sapphire Black Black Leather	£7,850.00
0505 Astra 1.8 16v Exclusive Cabriolet Silver Lightning	£8,995.00

#### NEW ASTRA From £7495

0454 New Astra 2.0 16v Turbo Sri 5dr Ultra Blue 28000miles	£7,850.00
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0707 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Metro Blue 6800miles	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Sapphire Black 12000miles	£9,650.00
0757 New Astra 1.6 16v Energy 5dr Choice of Colours	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.8 Sri XP 5dr Choice of 2	£11,650.00

#### NEW ASTRA SPORT HATCH From £8995

0505 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri Sport hatch Star Silver 40000miles	£8,995.00
0505 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri Sport Hatch with Exterior Pack	£9,995.00
0656 New Astra 2.0 16v T Sri Sport hatch with Exterior Pack	£12,995.00

#### MERIVA From £6995

0505 Meriva 1.8 16v Design Star Silver 33000miles	£6,995.00
NEW MERIVA From £8995	
0757 New Meriva 1.4 16v Energy Sapphire Black 6000miles	£8,995.00

#### VECTRA From £5995

0454 Vectra 1.8 16v Life 5dr Silver Lightning 22000miles	£5,995.00
0454 Vectra 2.0Dti Design 5dr Star Silver 29000miles	£7,995.00

#### NEW VECTRA From £6995

0505 New Vectra 2.0Dti Club 5dr Silver Lightning 31000miles	£6,995.00
0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Exclusive 5dr Pomegranite Red	£8,995.00
0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Design 4dr Star Silver 24000miles	£9,495.00

#### NEW SIGNUM From £16995

0757 New Signum 1.9Cdti 150 Exclusive Auto Silver Lightning	£16,995.00
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#### ZAFIRA From £6795

0404 Zafira 1.8 16v Life Kings Blue 29000miles	£6,795.00
0454 Zafira 2.0Dti Design Silver Lightning 43000miles	£7,995.00

#### NEW ZAFIRA From £8450

0505 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Club Pannacotta 35000miles	£9,995.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Club Flame Red 21000miles	£8,450.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Active Ultra Blue 19000miles	£8,850.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Life Pomegranite Red 12000miles	£8,850.00
0606 New Zafira 1.8 16v Design Star Silver 23000miles	£10,495.00
0606 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Active Ultra Blue 9500miles	£10,850.00
0606 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Active Sapphire Black 29000miles	£11,995.00
0656 New Zafira 1.6 16v Active Star Silver 13000miles	£8,850.00
0707 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Energy Ultra Blue 7000miles	£10,995.00
0808 New Zafira 1.6 16v Breeze+Star Silver 1000miles	£12,295.00

#### MONARO From £14850

0555 Monaro 5.7V8 Black with Black Leather 22000miles	£14,850.00
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0808 Tigra 1.4 Sapphire Black Alloys delivery miles	£11,995.00
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0808 New Astravan 1.9Cdti Sportive Choice of 3 Star Silver	£10,995.00
0808 New Vivaro 2.0Cdti 115 Lwb Star Silver Deliver Miles	£13,995.00

#### DEMONSTRATORS

0757 Combo Crewvan 1.7Dti Glacier White	
0757 New Meriva 1.6 16v Design Star Silver	£7,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri 5dr Metro Blue	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.816v Sri Sport Hatch Panoramic Roof Metro Blue	£10,995.00
0757 New Vectra 1.9(120) Sri 5dr Silver Lightning	£11,995.00
0757 New Astra 2.016v Turbo Exclusive Twin Top Sapphire Black	£12,995.00
0757 Antara 2.0Cdti S Granite Black 5dr	£14,995.00
0757 New Zafira 1.9Cdti (150) Auto Design Panoramic Roof	£15,995.00
0808 New Agila 1.2 16v Design Moroccan Blue	£15,995.00
0808 New Astra 2.0 VXR Nurenburging Stunning	£8,995.00
0808 Antara 2.0Cdti Se Auto Immscher Body Kit Nickel Silver	£16,995.00

#### LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (all prices + VAT)

0454 Toyota Hi Ace 280SWB Red 24000miles	£24,995.00
0554 Vivaro 2.5Cdti Sportive Star Silver 55000miles	£6,995.00
0555 Vivaro 1.9Cdti (100) 9 seat Minibus Air Con Glacier White	£7,995.00
0606 Ford Connect T230 Hallmark Air Con 10000miles	£10,995.00
0656 Astravan 1.7 Sportive Star Silver 24000miles	£8,995.00
0707 New Astravan 1.3 Cdti Club Glacier White 30000miles	£7,995.00
0757 New Astravan 1.7Cdti Club Glacier White 9000miles	£7,495.00
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**Senior & General Appointments** 39-42

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**ST. KATHERINE'S SCHOOL**  
require a  
**TEACHING ASSISTANT**  
from the start of September 2008 to work for 25 hours per week, term time only.  
Qualifications an advantage but not essential. Gross salary approx £6,709 per annum. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.  
Application forms available from St. Katherine's School, St. Katherine's Lane, Snodland, Kent ME6 5EJ. Telephone: 01634 240061. Closing date 27th June 2008.

**GRACE MANOR NURSING HOME**  
Gillingham  
**Day & Nighttime Carers**  
required, NVQ2 preferred  
but not essential  
Please telephone for an application form  
Tel: 01634 570230  
348 Grange Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2UD

**Teach English at home**  
• could you host & teach one or two students (junior or adult)?  
• must be suitably qualified / experienced  
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For further information call our  
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**Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School**  
Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL  
Tel: 01634 844008  
[www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk](http://www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk)  
Age range of students 11-18  
We require an  
**ICT TECHNICIAN**  
37 HRS PER WK • TERM TIME ONLY  
to start September 2008. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway grade C1-Salary range £16,217 - £21,421 Pro rata (Pay award pending).  
You will work as part of a team of three technicians to oversee all aspects of the school's curriculum network, building and testing applications, liaising with suppliers or providers in fault finding and fixing. The ability to work under pressure and have a flexible approach to your workload is a necessity.  
Please contact Mrs J Freeman for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008. The deadline for application forms to reach the school will be 7th July 2008.

**Workshop Engineer**  
We are a laboratory instrument manufacturer based in Sevenoaks. We have a vacancy for a self-motivated and practical person to fill a position for an assembly/fabricator  
Applicants should be flexible and have basic practical electro-mechanical skills. Full training given. Salary negotiable.  
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Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million.

**REF: 491 - OPERATIONS MANAGER - YOUNG PERSONS' SERVICES**  
Drug and Alcohol Services - Kent & Medway  
Salary £34,991 - £42,681 (SCP 43 - 52) (pay award pending)  
37 hours per week • Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056  
Based in East Kent

The role offers a stimulating combination of tasks, including Service Manager support and project management covering quality, performance and operational issues. You will play a key part in ensuring contractual compliance and assist in service development work. You will be able to evidence:

- Extensive knowledge of services for young people with substance misuse problems.
- Staff performance management and service management experience
- A sound grasp of business and strategic planning
- An appropriate professional qualification.

Should you wish to discuss this opportunity informally, please call Peter Gallagher or Claire Goulding on 01795 590635 or e-mail [peter@kca.org.uk](mailto:peter@kca.org.uk) or [claire@kca.org.uk](mailto:claire@kca.org.uk)

For an application form and information pack, please contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, email [recruitment@kca.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@kca.org.uk), website [www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk).

Closing date: 13th July 2008  
Interview date: 21st July 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

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[www.companyhealth.co.uk](http://www.companyhealth.co.uk)  
**EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NURSES**  
Company Health Ltd, a leading OH provider, is looking for screening nurses to carry out lifestyle checks for a public sector employer in Kent. No OH experience is necessary as full training will be given. This is a peripatetic role which would be suitable for RNs with an interest in health promotion. The role is available on either a F/T or P/T basis with very competitive rates. This is a great opportunity for RNs looking to get into occupational health as there is potential for progression for the right candidates. If you enjoy working in a close-knit, supportive team, please forward your CV to Ellie Nelson at [enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk](mailto:enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk).

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All Seasons is part of Enterprising Opportunities CIC in partnership with Canterbury and District Enterprise Trust (CADET), a registered charity. Registered Co. no. 01509930

**Demelza Hospice Care for Children** has further opportunities to join our dynamic and successful children's charity providing high quality care to life limited children and support to their families.  
[www.demelza.org.uk](http://www.demelza.org.uk)

**Human Resources Officer**  
**c.£21-23k**

Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Based from our hospice in Sittingbourne, you will undertake some travel to other sites in Kent, East Sussex and south London, providing generalist support and advice to line managers and employees.

With 150 multi disciplinary employees across 3 sites, plus a number of retail outlets, and 750 volunteers, you will be a competent generalist who enjoys the whole spectrum of HR practice and can be innovative to problem solving and thorough in delivery of a number of concurrent projects.

Working within a small HR team you will be a strong team player and have some understanding of the charity/voluntary sector with an appreciation for the diversity of disciplines you will be supporting.

With a minimum of a CIPD CPP and previous experience in a generalist role, you will enjoy a challenge and be self motivated in keeping your knowledge of all relevant issues up to date, demonstrating recent personal CPD. You will need a driving license, willingness to travel, and an ability to re-prioritize a changing workload.

You will need previous experience of recruitment, all aspects of performance management, including appraisal systems, capability and disciplinary issues, contracts of employment, and all aspect of employee relations.

Closing Date 1st July, 2008

Informal visits and chats warmly welcomed with Lavinia Jarrett, Head of Human Resources on 01795 845207. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Visit our website on [www.demelzahouse.org](http://www.demelzahouse.org)  
Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651.  
Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ

DISCLOSURE BY PEOPLE  
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A disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant  
Demelza House is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.



## Communities

## Committee Services

## Committee Services Assistant

Salary: Circa £19,000 - £23,000

Ref: CSA/SH

We are seeking an enthusiastic, well organised and politically aware individual to join our small and supportive team running the democratic processes at Gravesham.

The successful candidate will have proven experience of working in an office environment undertaking a wide range of duties, ideally including taking notes at meetings; and an understanding of the workings of a large organisation or local authority. The increased use of specialist software is integral in improving our service and competent IT skills are pre requisite in this role.

You must be willing to work in an often busy environment and regular attendance at evening meetings will be required.

This is an exciting opportunity for the right candidate who will be fully supported in undertaking a professional qualification in the field.

Closing date: 7, July 2008.

## For an application form and job description please contact:

Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Telephone: 01474 33 70 00

Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.



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## Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

### Senior Learning Resources Officer

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Post Ref: S3

### Learning Support - Construction and Key Skills

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/92

### Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/93

### Learning Support - Administration and Key Skills

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/94

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

**The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.**

### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme



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## TEACHERS do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL

If you would like to join them in January 2009, or as soon as possible, we are confident that: - It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.

- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2005 said,

"The expertise and skill of staff in every aspect of the school's highly specialised work is exemplary"

"Pupils make remarkable progress in the way they overcome communication and social difficulties and so become able to learn often for the first time"

"Bradstow is a very good school, which helps transform pupils' and students' daily lives."

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available.

For an application form and information pack please call  
01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email  
personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.  
Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, 4th July 2008

## Valence School

Valence School is expanding  
and we require some  
additional dynamic staff to  
support the work of the  
School. Could we be  
looking for someone like you?



Valence School is a KCC all age residential and day special school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

### We have the following vacancies:

#### RE / Humanities Co-ordinator (full time)

Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

#### ICT Teacher (part time)

Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

#### Personalised Care and Inclusion Leader

(full time Kent Scheme 7/8 £20,061 - £26,159)

#### Student Support Assistants

(morning &amp; evening shifts Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

#### Keyworkers

(full and part time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

#### Waking Night Staff

(part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 plus unsocial hours enhancement)

#### Cleaners

(flexible evening shifts from £6.46 per hour)

#### Minibus Driver and Maintenance

Clean appropriate licence required

(full time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

#### Receptionist

(morning and holiday cover part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

#### Fundraiser

(remunerated at a percentage of the amount raised)

For further information about these new roles at Valence, please contact the Staff Services Team on 07788421073 or email [vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk](mailto:vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk).

Closing date for all applications is Friday 4th July 2008.



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**G & J Engineering Ltd**

We have an imminent 16 week contract in the Kent area & require the following tradesmen preferably experience in the gas industry.

**Mechanical** **Civil**

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**Rates of pay negotiable**

**Contact: Tony Short on**  
**029 2045 2027**

**Amphenol**

Electrical, electronic and fibre optic connectors, cables and systems

**CNC Machine Setters / Programmers - Double Day Shift**  
**Thanet Way, Whitstable**  
Amphenol Ltd is an innovative and leading edge manufacturer of both connectors and interconnect systems for applications within the mil-aero and industrial markets.  
The successful candidate will have the following:-  
Either -  
Served a recognised general engineering apprenticeship training programme supported by a certificate of competence on one of either: Sliding Head and CNC Turning machines.  
Or  
Completed a satisfactory internal/external training programme period for CNC Setter Grade B for a period of one year, acquiring the skills necessary to set and programme CNC 1st operation turning machines.  
Or  
Shall be able to show previous experience of a comparable standard in this or another company.  
We also require 1 years experience, at CNC Setter grade B level or equivalent on at least one of the following machines:  
a. Swiss/sliding head automatic machines  
b. CNC Machines  
In return we offer a competitive package

For more information or to apply, please telephone the  
Human Resources Department on 01227 773390 or email laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

**Amphenol**

Electrical, electronic and fibre optic connectors, cables and systems

**Line Leader**  
**Thanet Way, Whitstable**  
Amphenol Ltd is an innovative and leading edge manufacturer of both connectors and interconnect systems for applications within the mil-aero and industrial markets. The successful candidate will support Production Management in the smooth running of the Manufacturing Assembly Lines.

**Key Tasks:-**

- Plan and prepare manufacturing production schedules and departmental work flow
- Ensure all due date deliveries and production targets are met
- Monitor consumables and stock levels
- Expedite operations that delay and alters schedules to combat delays caused by unforeseen circumstances
- Preparation of production reports and review documents such as production schedules and staffing levels
- Monitor staff performance, including staff discipline and make certain that company procedures are followed
- Carry out training with new starters or on new products as and when requested

**Qualifications and Experience requirements:-**

- Product knowledge would be beneficial but knowledge of similar manufacturing areas would be considered
- Experience of supervising and training necessary
- The ability to read and understand technical specifications and drawings and the ability to work within established procedures
- Knowledge of an MRP system preferred and standard Microsoft packages

**In return we offer a competitive package**

For more information or to apply, please telephone the Human Resources Department  
on 01227 773390 or email laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

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**Canterbury College**

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

**Co-ordinator - Literacy and Numeracy (Basic Skills)** Post Ref: CO131  
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

**Co-ordinator for HE Music provision** Post Ref: 08/89  
2 x 18.5 hrs per week or 1 x 37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

**Lecturer in Hospitality & Catering** Post Ref: 08/47  
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

**Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL** Post Ref: 08/90  
27.75 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

**Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL** Post Ref: 08/91  
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

**Lecturer in Chemistry** Post Ref: 06/182  
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

**Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services** Post Ref: 08/39  
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

**Higher Education Lecturer in Building Surveying** Post Ref: 07/28  
9.25 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Higher Education Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

**Fine Art Practice** Post Ref: S/HE

**Sculptural Practice** Post Ref: S/HE

**Early Years Studies** Post Ref: S/HE

**Care Management** Post Ref: S/HE

**Counselling (must be BACP accredited)** Post Ref: S/HE  
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

**Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture** Post Ref: S/AH  
Various hours available from July 2008, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

**Supply Lecturers in Dental Nursing** Post Ref: S/DN  
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

**Infrastructure (Network) Team Leader** Post Ref: NTL1  
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £23,651 per annum

**Network Application Technician (Advanced)** Post Ref: ATA  
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

**Media and Public Relations Officer** Post Ref: 08/32  
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

**Curriculum Support Assistant Construction** Post Ref: 06/201  
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.  
Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

**Pre 16 Learning Support** Post Ref: 07/17  
25 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.  
Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum  
Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010

**Student Support Finance Advisor** Post Ref: LSF1  
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.  
**The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.**

**Staff benefits include:**

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
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Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are all important here, because we need you to host a wide range of events and develop strong relationships with journalists. This is all about getting to know the kind of stories and information they're looking for, then delivering exactly what they need.

You've already proved that you can write engaging and compelling copy, as well as juggle a number of tasks at any one time. But you should also enjoy working as part of a close-knit team, co-operating with colleagues to drive our continued success.

In return, you can look forward to an excellent benefits package including a subsidised staff restaurant, social club, medical insurance, pension, excellent career development opportunities and concessions for holidays and travel.

To apply, please write enclosing your CV and current salary details to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: [human.resources@saga.co.uk](mailto:human.resources@saga.co.uk) Please quote reference: SG214/KOS.

Closing date: 27 June 2008.

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Headteacher: Catherine Barber, Millbank Road, Kingsnorth,  
Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

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Pre interview visits are actively encouraged in order for you to meet us and gain an insight into the role.

Kent Pay Scheme Band 5 Pts 14-17 £15,903-£17,492 (pro rata)

Appointment is subject to Enhanced CRB check.

Teaching Application Form obtainable by visiting our website:  
www.ashfordchristchurch.com School info/Vocancies

For further information and an application pack please contact HR Officer

Samantha Sullivan at samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com

Telephone: 01233 623465/652613 or Fax: 01233 636861

Closing date: 27th June 2008.

Ashford Christ Church is an Equal Opportunities employer.



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### ISP SCHOOL SITTINGBOURNE TEACHING ASSISTANT

Salary Scale: £13636 - £16819 plus benefits

We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to support looked after children in an EBD school setting of small classes. All students are not in mainstream school for a variety of reasons. Hours are 8.30 am to 4.30 pm term time only. Experience of working with Special Educational Needs students in age ranges 7 - 16 is an advantage but all life experiences considered.

For application packs and to register an interest please contact Sharon Cahill,  
HR Administrator on 01795 428097 or email [Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk](mailto:Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk)

For informal discussion contact Toni Reedman  
or John Stevens on Tel: 01795 422044

Closing date for applications: 4th July, 2008

The successful applicants will be subject to enhanced CRB checks

All applicants must be committed to achieving  
and promoting equal opportunities in the workplace.

For more information about ISP go to  
[www.ispchildcare.org.uk](http://www.ispchildcare.org.uk)

## Training and Development Officer

Support Grade E: £19736 to £25441



We currently have an opportunity for a full time Training and Development Officer, who will have responsibility for developing, implementing and maintaining the College's training and development practices and procedures.

This would include:

- Designing and developing training and development programmes based on both the college's and the individual's needs.
- Considering the costs of planned programmes and keeping within budgets.
- Assessing the return on investment of any training or development programme.
- Producing training materials for in-house courses.
- Managing the delivery of training and development programmes.

You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have strong analytical, communication and report writing skills.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk).  
Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402  
(24 hour answer machine) or e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk)  
quoting the appropriate job title.

Closing date 4th July 2008. Interviews will be held on Friday 11 July 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



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### FINDLAY ELECTRICAL & SECURITY LIMITED

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at Trafalgar House Grenville Place Mill Hill London NW7 3SA on 10/07/2008 at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Creditors should be aware that resolutions will be taken at the meeting specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated. In addition, the meeting may receive information about the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening that meeting. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at the offices of B & C Associates, Trafalgar House Grenville Place Mill Hill London NW7 3SA on the two working days preceding the date of the meeting stated above. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proxy and statement of claim at the Company's registered office at Trafalgar House Grenville Place Mill Hill London NW7 3SA not later than 12 noon on the working day preceding the meeting.  
Dated: 16/06/2008  
DARREN BERNARD FINDLAY, Director  
7230279

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Medina Foodservice Ltd of White Hart Road, Slough, Berks, SL1 2SF is applying to change an existing licence as follows: to add an Operating Centre to keep 10 vehicles and 0 trailer at Rochester Depot, Knight Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4AU. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Ivy House, 3 Ivy Terrace, Eastbourne, BN21 4QT stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send copy of their representations to the application at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.





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Next courses are on August 18-22 and November 17-21. Details on 01634 365555 or email [info@medwaysafety.co.uk](mailto:info@medwaysafety.co.uk).

### Ladies more likely to do business with a smile

MEN moan more than women – when it comes to business.

Males are more likely to complain of bad experiences than females, according to research by customer review directory, [www.bvview.co.uk](http://www.bvview.co.uk), which carries tens of thousands of Kent company profiles.

Men gave companies an average customer approval of 53 per cent while the ladies gave average scores of 68 per cent.

BView MD Adam Baker said: "The idea of Britain being a nation of grumpy male consumers seems to ring true, but despite requests, we never remove these critical reviews from a company's profile page."

### Longer lives increasing our retirement worries

MORE than half the people in the South East are worried about being able to finance their retirement if they live for ten years longer than today's average life span of 82 years, according to research released by Life Trust Insurance.

The new company, formed to offer financial services to help protect people against the increasing likelihood of longer lifespans, warns that increased longevity could see many needing to rethink their finances as they continue to underestimate their life expectancy.

Increasing longevity is now a fact of life and the trend continues to rise.

# Partnership is keen to take firm forward

## Established estate agents now under new ownership

■ BY TONY PATEY

MEDWAY-based Greyfox Estate Agents is celebrating 21 years of successful trading by being taken over by local two businessmen keen to invest and expand.

Former managing director of The Kings Ferry travel group Steve O'Neill and Greyfox partner Paul Tilley have each bought a 50 per cent stake in the operation.

Mr O'Neill, who successfully negotiated the £8 million sale of The Kings Ferry group based in Gillingham to National Express, has since been seeking an investment in a respected Kent company with growth potential.

He said: "Greyfox has provided an excellent service for 21 years and the opportunity to become a director in a company I know was too good to pass.

"I'm hoping the business acumen I've acquired over many years at The Kings Ferry will be of considerable benefit to Greyfox."

Paul Tilley has been with Greyfox since its early days.

He is a highly qualified estate agent and a fellow of the National Association of Estate Agents. Mr Tilley has also appeared and advised on TV programmes such as Homes Under the Hammer.

He said: "My experience at Greyfox has enabled me to gain a thorough understanding of the business and the Kent market.

"Now as a director, it's exciting to be able to introduce new initiatives to further enhance



**IN IT TOGETHER:** Paul Tilley (left) and Steve O'Neill are hoping their combined experience will improve the company

our services for customers. Our investment and expertise should place the company in a strong position for the future."

The firm has just launched its 24/7 text service which allows potential buyers to access property details on their mobile phones at only usual operator charges.

Mr Tilley said: "If you were passing one of our properties for sale and liked the look of it, you can text Greyfox to 84840 straight away – it's very easy to use.

"The technology pinpoints your location and instantly sends you the basic home details

and price. It's also possible to receive photographs and obtain a link to our website [www.greyfox.co.uk](http://www.greyfox.co.uk).

"The enquirer is very much in control and can decide whether to contact us for more information. The system is governed by the Data Protection Act and it's cheaper than a phone call."

Greyfox's headquarters are in Medway and it has a total of five district offices. The company employs 35 staff.

Mr O'Neill, 36, has lived in Medway all his life, and Mr Tilley, 44, also lives in Medway.

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Tony Patey asks if the county council is getting its role muddled



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## One-run win tough on gritty Rainham

RAINHAM came agonisingly close to beating league leaders High Halstow, losing by one run on Saturday.

Callum Mitchell took 4-33 to help reduce the opposition to a vulnerable 146 all out.

Matt Goodwin's 65 put Rainham on course, but wickets at regular intervals saw the visitors all out for 145.

Rainham stay second in the table, 29 points behind unbeaten High Halstow.

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Your **LOCAL TV** ONLINE



Striker Gary Mulligan explains why he will be staying with the Gills this season

# Promotion is still very much on the cards after win

A HALF century from Buster Gibbons helped Lordswood 3rd XI to a 62-run win against Upchurch 3rd XI which strengthened their position in the promotion places.

Put into bat, Lordswood got off to a steady start with Gibbons finding form en route to 50. The visitors lost quick wickets in the middle of their innings, but Chris Arnold and Alex Austin ensured they posted a competitive total.

Robert Ryan put Lordswood in the driving seat straight away as he took two early wickets.

Upchurch tried to rebuild their innings, but lacked a lynxpin to anchor their reply. Andy Presland took three wickets to

## CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

remove most of the lower order as the hosts were bowled out for 100. The win kept Lordswood second in the table, 13 points clear of third-placed Hawkinge.

Elsewhere, Lordswood's first team continued their frustrating season with a six-wicket defeat to Sandwich Town. Batting first at Martin Grove the home side made 132, but Sandwich surpassed their total for the loss of only four wickets.

Defeat saw Lordswood fall behind Sandwich and into the bottom two.

This Saturday, Lordswood visit Sevenoaks Vine.



Picture: KOS KIPRO

**BAILED OUT:** A Lordswood batsman sees his innings come to an end

### Kent Cricket Feeder League East 1D Upchurch 3rd XI v Lordswood 3rd XI

#### Lordswood

	Runs
Zack Plews ct Collis b Pidcock	14
Buster Gibbons ct Barden b Hales	50
Will Richardson b Pidcock	18
Matthew Thomas ct Overbury b Parker	4
Ryan Restell ct Davies b Parker	5
Andy Presland ct Overbury b Parker	20
Chris Arnold not out	38
Alex Austin not out	38
Matthew Wilson did not bat	
Robert Ryan did not bat	
Jack Laraman did not bat	
<b>Extras (1lb 12w)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total (6 wickets, 46 overs)</b>	<b>162</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Daniel Overbury	10	0	52	0
Alex Hales	12	2	39	1
Mark Pidcock	12	5	31	2
Jamie Parker	11	3	36	3
Alan Collis	1	0	6	0

#### Upchurch

	Runs
Paul Barden ct Wilson b Ryan	4
Thomas Moore b Austin	15
Callum Davies b Ryan	0
George Phillips ct Gibbons b Austin	25
Alan Collis lbw b Laraman	10
Jamie Parker c&b Presland	8
Jack Davies c&b Presland	1
Jerry Overbury ct Plews b Laraman	8
Daniel Overbury b Presland	8
Mark Pidcock ct Restell b Gibbons	2
Alex Hales not out	2
<b>Extras (3b 2lb 12w)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total (all out, 36 overs)</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Robert Ryan	12	4	20	2
Ryan Restell	5	0	16	0
Alex Austin	8	1	20	2
Jack Laraman	6	1	17	2
Andy Presland	5	0	18	3
Buster Gibbons	1	0	1	1

## LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

### KENT CRICKET LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

#### Linden Park 1st XI v Upchurch 1st XI

UPCHURCH won their fifth successive match to move top of Division Three with a five-wicket win over former leaders Linden Park.

The visitors made good use of the ball after winning the toss, bowling out in-form Linden Park for 146. Tim Mullis and Kevin Collis did the damage, picking up three wickets apiece.

In reply, captain Dean Headley fell two short of a half century to put Upchurch well on their way to victory.

Sam Bewick and Michael Hales steered them home in the 34th over to complete a morale boosting victory against one of their title rivals.

#### Linden Park

	Runs
Kevin Anson	25
Tom Williams	15
Brian Gasking	5
Tom Davis	2
Abhijit Kale	3
Stuart Clarke	9
John Harvey	4
Michael Brown	1
Oliver Morrell	31
James Saunders	5
David Waterfield	0
<b>Extras (1b 1lb 11w 3nb)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total (all out, 48.2 overs)</b>	<b>146</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Daniel Parker	6	0	15	1
Andy Holmwood	8	1	29	1
Tim Mullis	15	3	29	3
Michael Hales jnr	11	1	41	2
Kevin Collis	8.2	1	30	3

#### Upchurch

	Runs
Dean Headley	48
Jim Phillips	6
Lee Taylor	19
Michael Hales jnr	9
Daniel Parker	16
Sam Bewick	32
Michael Hales	6
Warren Little	0
Kevin Collis	0
Tim Mullis	0
Andy Holmwood	0
<b>Extras (6b 5lb)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total (5 wickets, 33.2 overs)</b>	<b>147</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
David Waterfield	6	0	30	1
Brian Gasking	5	1	22	0
John Harvey	11.2	2	44	2
Abhijit Kale	11	1	40	2

### KENT CRICKET FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1B

#### Herne Bay CC - 1st XI v Bostal CC - 1st XI

PROMOTION-chasing Bostal beat struggling Herne Bay by seven wickets in a match which went to form at Polo Farm.

Bay posted a decent 207-8 from their 46 overs, the highlight a half century from opener Fred Gillard. Their score might have been even higher with better running between the wickets, as three home batsmen were run out.

Bostal lost two early wickets, but a partnership of 143 between Daniel Tingley and Arshad Hussain won the match for the visitors, who reached their target with 13 overs to spare.

#### Herne Bay

	Runs
Simon Roots	40
Fred Gillard	54
Gavin Hall	30
Tom Rose	7
Edward Govier	5
Tom Staunton	35
Sam Staunton	2
Dan Bonthurys	0
Peter Chester	8
Nick Smith	0
Chris Wright	0
<b>Extras (4b 2lb 20w)</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Total (8 wickets, 46 overs)</b>	<b>207</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Mark Stevens	6	2	20	0
Mohammed Anjad Awan	6	0	21	0
Majid Arshad	12	0	67	2
Adam Mahomed	11	1	44	1
Arshad Hussain	3	0	25	0
Anjad Hussain	7	1	24	2

#### Bostal

	Runs
Anjad Hussain	16
Majid Arshad	23
Daniel Tingley	83
Arshad Hussain	56
James Whitnell	1
Mark Tanday	0
Dean Knights	0
Fred Tippett	0
Mark Stevens	0
Adam Mahomed	0
Mohammed Anjad Awan	0
<b>Extras (10b 3lb 16w 2nb)</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Total (3 wickets, 33 overs)</b>	<b>210</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Edward Govier	6	1	35	1
Fred Gillard	12	1	46	0
Nick Smith	1	0	14	0
Tom Staunton	2	0	22	0
Tom Rose	8	0	48	1
Roy Sans	3	0	30	0
Chris Wright	2	1	2	0
Sam Staunton	2	1	2	0

### KENT CRICKET FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1A

#### Blue Bell Hill 1st XI v Betteshanger Colliery Welfare 1st XI

A LACK of runs cost Blue Bell Hill as they slumped to a nine-wicket defeat against leaders Betteshanger Colliery.

Only three batsmen made it into double figures for the home side as they found it tough going against the divisions form side. The final six wickets fell for only 22 runs, setting the visitors a vulnerable victory target of 133.

Any hope of an unlikely win was banished by Betteshanger's opening pair, who put on 118 for the first wicket, taken by Paul Fookes.

On Saturday, Blue Bell Hill host fellow mid-table side Bobbing Court and Lower Halstow.

#### Blue Bell Hill

	Runs
Jack Attridge	5
Roy Sans	0
Harry Stevens	21
Paul Brivio	34
Jack Brivio	28
Russell Booth	7
Christopher Watson	4
Bon Higsted	1
Paul Fookes	5
Ian Rayward	9
James Underwood	0
<b>Extras (9b 1lb 7w 1nb)</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Total (all out, 44.5 overs)</b>	<b>132</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Andrew McNicholas	3	0	11	0
Steven King	12	5	23	3
Michael McNicholas	8	2	24	0
Liam Collins	10	2	26	1
Clive Towe	10	3	25	5
Steve McNicholas	15	0	13	1

#### Betteshanger Colliery Welfare

	Runs
Clive Towe	67
Liam Collins	58
Martin Cheesman	2
Chris Carton	0
Andrew McNicholas	0
Jeffrey Towe	0
Derek Towe	0
Darren Fletcher	0
Michael McNicholas	0
Steven King	0
<b>Extras (2b 4lb 1w 1nb)</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total (1 wicket, 30 overs)</b>	<b>135</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
James Underwood	9	2	41	0
Paul Fookes	10	0	41	1
Ian Rayward	3	0	25	0
Roy Sans	5	0	18	0
Paul Brivio	2	0	4	0

### KENT CRICKET FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1C

#### Holcombe 1st XI v Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 3rd XI

A GOOD all-round display saw Holcombe keep up the pressure on the top two with a 116-run win against Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow.

Put into bat, Holcombe lost wickets regularly, but kept the scoreboard ticking over, a succession of batsmen making useful contributions which helped the hosts to 196-9.

Against a team in better form, the total may have been under threat, but it was too much for second bottom Bobbing Court.

Dion Davis starred with the ball, returning figures of 4-5 from his eight overs as the visitors were dismissed for 80.

#### Holcombe

	Runs
Kevin Shipton	18
Colin Dix	21
Paul Chell	25
John Russell	9
Dion Davis	41
Aaron Wadhams	28
Steve Barrett	5
Adam Carter	22
Tom Dix	6
Howard Meade	0
Maurice Mulryne	1
<b>Extras (3b 5lb 12w)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Total (9 wickets, 46 overs)</b>	<b>196</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
David Bruce	10	1	47	0
Simon Chittenden	8	0	34	3
Ricky Clayton	12	3	27	2
Mark Bruce	11	1	51	1
Ian Foster	5	0	20	2

#### Bobbing Court and Lower Halstow

	Runs
Pack Clayton	13
Rick Homer	0
Steve Holmes	4
Damien Hudson	0
Ian Foster	2
Russ Bailey	8
Mark Bruce	32
Scott Stevens	0
David Bruce	16
Ricky Clayton	1
Simon Chittenden	0
<b>Extras (1b 1w 2nb)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total (all out, 29.2 overs)</b>	<b>80</b>

#### Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Dion Davis	8	3	5	4
Aaron Wadhams	8	2	27	2
Tom Dix	5	1	23	1
John Russell	6	3	19	2
Adam Carter	2.2	0	4	1



# Mulligan prepared to get along with boss

## FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM striker Gary Mulligan says he does not bear any resentment towards manager Mark Stimson after friction between the pair last season and is ready to fight for his place in the team.

The 23-year-old is a fans' favourite at Priestfield, but he spent two spells on the sidelines last season after appearing to fall out with Stimson.

His two-year spell at the club looked to be over following relegation when he told the Gills boss in May he wanted to leave to stay in League One. But after a lack of firm interest from potential suitors, Mulligan agreed to stay at the club for another season earlier this month.

Now he hopes to put last season's problems behind him and is looking forward to the new campaign.

He told Yourmedway: "It was a bit frustrating really because there were times where I thought I shouldn't have been out and I was left in the stands. I just had to get my head down, work hard and eventually I got back in the team."

"I don't hold any grudges and neither does he so we're getting on fine. I just hope it stays like that."

"My agent was talking to a few League One clubs but at the end of the day there was nothing certain so I just went home, weighed up the options and in the end I decided to stay here an extra year and give it another go."

Mulligan is likely to have a fight on his hands to get his way into the starting line-up, with Stimson closing in on his primary transfer – a striker with physical presence.

Moving in the other direction, Gills are nearing an agreement to cancel Aaron Brown and Efe Sodje's contract, while Delroy Facey has attracted interest from two clubs.



STAYING PUT: Gary Mulligan is keen to work his way back into the side after problems last season



FOCUSED: Graham Ford is looking to another final

## CRICKET

### Hectic schedule is part of the game

KENT Spitfires face a crucial three days in the defence of their Twenty20 crown as qualification for the quarter-finals goes down to the wire.

Rob Key's side topped the south division before last night's game away to Middlesex.

But with five teams competing for the top two positions, the Spitfires will need to pick up points from the final group games against Surrey today and Sussex on Friday to be sure of progressing to the last eight.

Coach Graham Ford admits the schedule is difficult, but the players are used to it and the prospect of reaching another final is enough to spur them on.

He said: "The way the programme is, the players have to have a pretty short memory after defeats because it is such a hectic schedule. It's a difficult one because we do not have a great deal of time to prepare for the competition. We started with the county championship and the Friends Provident and then suddenly we are straight into Twenty20. It is difficult to get tactics and strategies in place, so often you have to rely on the characters in the team."

Kent have used an unchanged line-up so far in the competition and it looks as though they will resist the temptation to bring players such as Martin Saggers, Robbie Joseph, Amjad Khan and Matt Walker back into the frame.

The Spitfires have used a tried and trusted formula for the competition with three front line batsmen, together with five genuine all-rounders, Geraint Jones behind the stumps and two main bowlers.

Ford believes the success of last season's Twenty20 campaign was down to the players knowing they are part of a secure set-up and that won't change this year.

He said: "Changing the team is not that easy because we are trying to take the players forward as the competition is a different skill set to come up against."

"We didn't make a great deal of changes last year and it is a good thing to have a settled side with players secure in their positions – we won't be making any knee-jerk reactions."

## Ground share rumours rubbished by the Gills

## FOOTBALL

GILLINGHAM chief executive Mark Jones has dismissed suggestions the club are considering a ground share with Southend United.

When the league fixtures were announced earlier this week, the two clubs' games mirrored each other throughout the season, with Gills playing away when the Shrimpers were at home and vice versa.

But Jones rubbished internet rumours the club was planning to leave Priestfield in favour of Roots Hall.

He said: "There's no truth in that whatsoever. We are in full swing to find ourselves a new location in Kent and we are not in conversation with anyone else."

Jones was appointed in April to allow chairman Paul Scally to focus more of his time on raising investment for a new stadium.

Relocation is seen as crucial to the club's long-term aspirations, with Scally first unveiling plans for a 20,000-seater stadium four years ago. The original proposed site at Temple Marsh near Strood was rejected due to the high cost of improving trans-



NO GO ZONE: Rumours Gills are going to share with Southend Utd are unfounded

port links in the area.

With a lack of suitable sites in Medway, the club have considered other locations in Kent.

Gillingham Football Club plc no longer own Priestfield after shareholders agreed to sell the ground to Priestfield Developments Limited last December, reducing its £12 million debts by 75 per cent. Under the terms of the deal the company, which is owned by Scally, the club have a secure tender.

The ground cannot be sold or developed as long as the club need it and until an alternative is built.

## Denly delights charity crowd with six display

## CRICKET

RISING star Joe Denly thrilled the crowds by hitting six sixes in one over in a special charity match at King's School as part of Kent batsman Matt Walker's benefit year.

The match marked a return for Walker, who spent ten years as a pupil at the Rochester school from 1982.

Kent batted first in the Twenty20 game and set about the Roffensian XI in swashbuckling style.

Walker opened the batting and set the tone with a brisk 45 before he was bowled by Neil Miller.

Denly was the star of the innings as he smashed 94, including a maximum 36 from one over. Kent skipper Rob Key fared less well, caught off the bowling of Mick Mernagh for a duck.

Late runs from Geraint Jones, another former King's pupil, saw Kent post a huge 281-5 from their allocation.

Needing more than 14 an over for victory, the Roffensian side responded with some lusty blows but no batsman could stay in long enough to fire them to victory.



A GOOD CAUSE: Kent ace Joe Denly was the star turn at King's School match

Simon Nicholls top scored on 33 as the hosts scored a creditable 188-9 from their 20 overs. Walker took two wickets on the ground he first began playing 26 years ago.

Money raised from the game will help go towards his chosen charity in his benefit year, the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity, which provides support to families who have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness.

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